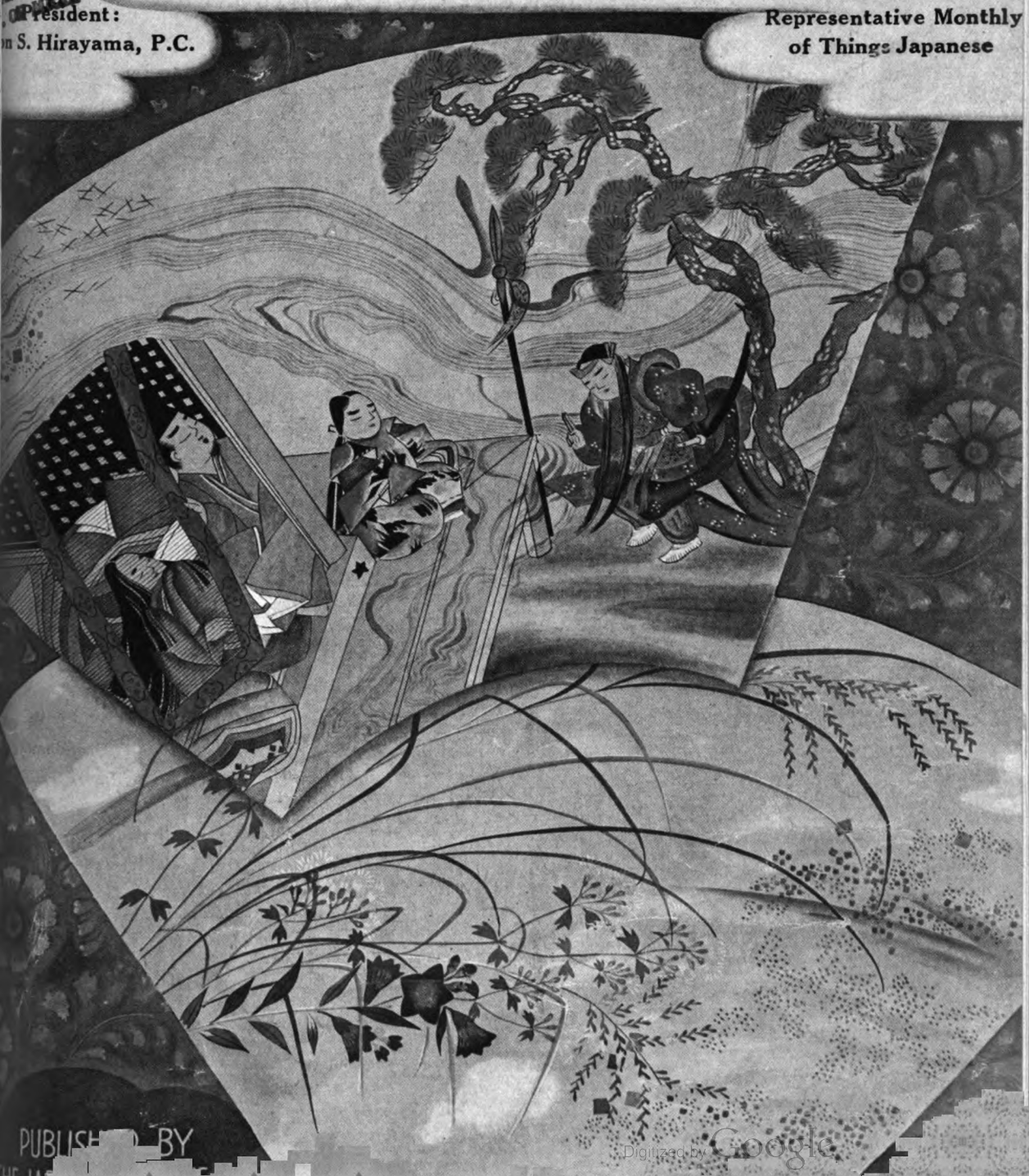
XVII JULY, 1927 No. 9

JUL 15 1927

THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

President:
n S. Hirayama, P.C.

A
Representative Monthly
of Things Japanese



PUBLISHED BY
THE JA

Digitized by Google

Tobaccos, Cigars & Cigarettes

HOME-MADE:—The following are very carefully made by us from the best Havana, Manila, Sumatra, or Turkish leaf, and are excellent in quality and moderate in price :—

CIGARS

		Yen		Yen
Imperiales.....	25's	12.50	5's	2.50
Perfectos	25's	7.50	5's	1.50
Regalia	25's	6.00	5's	1.20
Princesas	25's	6.00	5's	1.20

		Yen		Yen
Orientales	25's	5.00	5's	1.00
„	50's	10.00		
Londres.....	25's	2.50	5's	0.50
„	100's	10.00		
Senoritas .....200's		10.00	10's	0.50

CIGARETTES

		Yen
Nile (Silver tipped)	10's	0.45
Alma (Gold tipped)	10's	0.40
Orient (Cork tipped)	10's	0.30

FOREIGN-MADE:

The Imperial Japanese Government Monopoly Bureau aims to keep in stock, besides its own products, every description of manufactured tobaccos of the world, so as to enable visitors to Japan to obtain them at any of the chief retail-shops throughout the Empire.

CIGARS.—HAVANA:—Punch, Partagas, Behrens, Diaz Havana Co., La Corona, Jose Gener, Belinda, Upmann. MANILA:—Compania General, Oriente, Insular, Alhambra, Germinal, La Yebana, Maria Cristina. GERMANY:—Friedrich Gustus, F. Kratz, Roelecke & Fritzberg. HOLLAND:—Eugene Goulmy & Baar, Van der Putt, Dresselhuys. BELGIUM:—Ernest Tinchant, Prior.

CIGARETTES.—EGYPT & GREECE:—Kyriazi, Simon Arzt, Dimitrino, Maspero, Melachrino, Matossian, Stefanou, Carathanassis, &c. ENGLAND:—Wills, Westminster, Hill, Abdulla, Archer, Ardath, Alexander Boguslavsky, Teofani, Carreras, United Services. MALTA:—Cousis, Atlam, Enchanteresse. CANADA:—W. C. Macdonald. U. S. A:—Tobacco Products, American Tobacco Co., Liggett & Meyers, Schinasi Bros., &c. GERMANY:—Laferme, Manoli, Kosmos, A. M. Eckstein, Constantin, Reemtsma. ITALY:—Tobacco Monopoly Bureau. BELGIUM:—Van der Elst. HOLLAND:—Anglo-American Cigarette Co. SWITZERLAND:—Sato.—MANILA:—Alhambra, Manila Commercial.

PIPE MIXTURES.—ENGLAND:—Gallaher, Walkers, Archer, Carreras, Wills, Hill, Alfred Dunhill, Teofani. CANADA:—W. C. Macdonald, Tucketts. U. S. A.:—Patterson, Blackwell, British American Tobacco Co., American Tobacco Co., &c. FRANCE:—Tobacco Regie, Peyrano.

PLUGS.—U. S. A.:—British American Tobacco Co.

Price List can be had on application to the local Monopoly Office.

I. J G. Monopoly Bureau.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

Contents for July, 1927

1. Japan's Finance After the Tempest 295
2. Tokyo in Resuscitation (2) 397
3. Last Days of Lafcadio Hearn 401
4. The House of Mitsui 405
5. Japan's Newsgatherers 413
6. Fascination of the "Nô", By Zen Yamamoto. 416
7. The South Manchuria Railway Company 420
8. Lacquered Butterflies (VI), By Ryutei Tanehiko 426
9. Around the Hibachi 430
10. With the Red Cross of Japan 432
11. The Editor's Diary 433

Subscriptions:

In the Japanese Empire, (postpaid) per year in advance - *Yen* 5.50
In Foreign Countries, (postpaid) per year in advance - - $ 3.00
Single Copy- - - - - - - - - - - - - 50 sen (25 cents)

Foreign subscriptions should be remitted by P.O. or express money order, to The Japan Magazine Co., 6 Itchome Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo.

Agents:

Maruzen Company, Tokyo
Kyo-Bun-Kwan, Tokyo
Kawase Nissindo, Kobe
Kelly and Walsh, Yokohama and Shanghai
B. F. Stevens and Brown, London
Brentano's, New Yor and Paris
A. C. McClurg and Co., Chicago, Ill.
Smith and McCance, Boston, Mass.
Kho Hock-Tye, Penang, S. S.
G. E. Stechert and Co., New York
N. S. W. Bookstall Co., Sydney N. S. W.
Tract and Book Society, Bombay
C. B. Taraporevala Sons and Co., Bombay.
Federal Rubber Stamp Co., Kuala Lumpor, F. M. States

All Rights Reserved

Digitized by Google

Prince and Princess Li of Korea, now on a world tour. Princess Li is a daughter of Prince Nashimoto.

Mr. Osachi Hamaguchi, head of the new Minseito, amalgamation of the Kenseikai and Seiyu Honto, and now the strongest party in the Diet. He was Finance Minister and then Home Minister in the Wakatsuki cabinet.

Digitized by Google

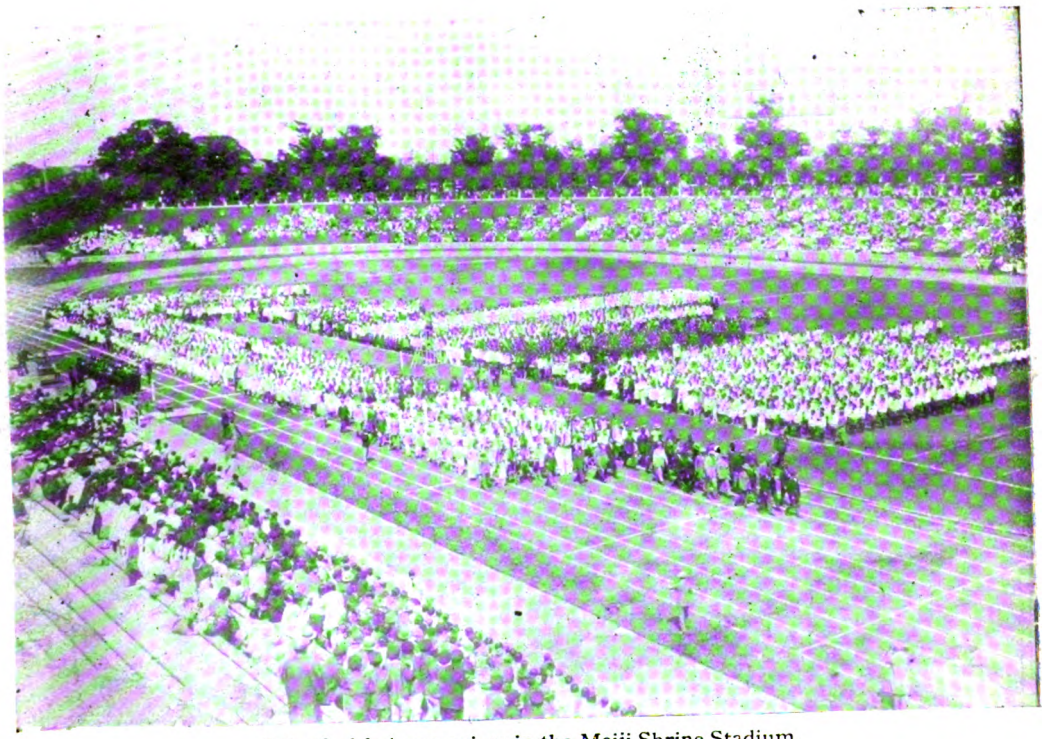
The Imperial Academy has conferred doctorate degrees on the scholars seen in the photograph. Left to right, front, T. Nakai, Y. Tanaka, Y. Shibata, G. Kato, S. Kato, T. Murakami, and K. Dohi.

In the rear, Secretary of the Cabinet Hatoyama, Imperial Household Minister Ichiki, Minister of Education Mituchi (now Finance Minister) and Dr. Joji Sakurai, President of the Imperial Academy.

Mr. Yusuke Tsurumi, son-in-law of Viscount Goto, who started recently on a trip through China.

Digitized by Google

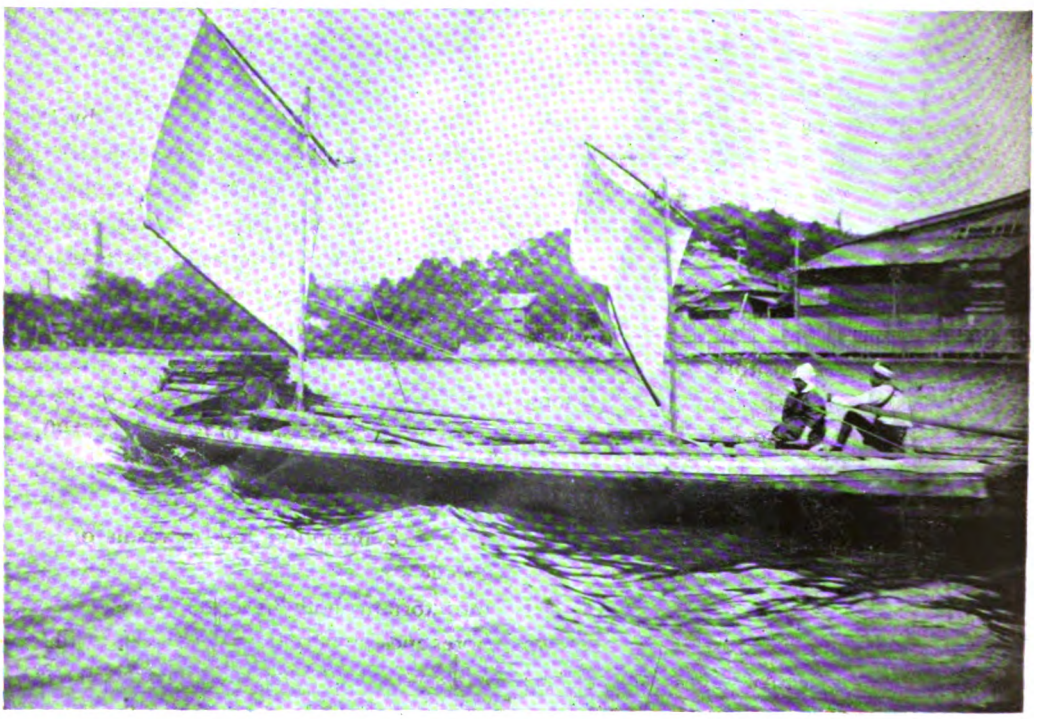
The University of California baseball team, now playing ball in Japan.



School girls in exercises in the Meiji Shrine Stadium.

Digitized by Google

Matsusuke Onoe, star actor of the Imperial Theater, Tokyo, celebrated the eightieth anniversary of his debut on the stage this spring. The photograph shows him seated at the right. Seated in the center is Baron Okura former president of the theater, while behind him stands Mr. K. Yamamoto, managing director. Three of the leading actresses also are seen.



On the Arakawa, upper course of the Sumida River Tokyo.

Digitized by Google

THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

Vol. XVII JULY, 1927 No. 10

Japan's Finance After the Tempest

THE deadlock in Japan's financial circles caused the resignation of the Wakatsuki Cabinet and brought Baron Tanaka into power, which was immediately followed by the Emergency Decree ordering a partial moratorium from April 22.

In the meanwhile, all banks throughout the Empire closed for two days, April 22 and 23 in order to allow the panic to subside, in collaboration with the new government. The Bank of Japan endeavoured, with the government, to successfully face the crisis, by taking a generous attitude in estimating the value of securities and granting loans even on a holiday, April 24, so as to prepare for the aftermath of the two days closing of the banks.

As to the suspension of business of the Bank of Taiwan and the Jugo Ginko (Fifteenth Bank), which gave no small shock to the depositors, it was practically an accomplished fact that had long been expected by those familiar with the financial condition of the country. The disclosure of this critical condition to the general public, however, brought home to them the needlessness of their anxiety over the banks in general. Under these circumstances, the close for two days was effective in calming the people's minds.

The financial market of the country, not only in Tokyo but in the various country districts, on April 25, the day following the general close of business of the banks, regained tranquility so successfully that all the banking houses, save a few returned to normal conditions. Depositors who had drawn their money from the banks in consternation were rather at a loss what to do with the money and a large number of them ran again to the banks and returned their deposits, particularly in the case of the first rate banks.

The issue of convertible notes by the Bank of Japan as a consequence of its extraordinary loans has considerably increased since the latter part of March when the bank runs started. Particularly since April 20 when the financial world was confronted with the panic, the issue of notes by the Bank of Japan showed the record-breaking figures of 2,660,000,000 yen in the amount of issue and 2,100,000,000 yen, in the amount loaned, on the Bank's balance-sheet on April 25.

In the meantime, as a result of the people's minds becoming stabilized by the moratorium, both the issue of convertible notes and loans have been markedly reduced, so that the former slightly exceeded 2,-

Digitized by Google

THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

Vol. XVII JULY, 1927 No. 10

Japan's Finance After the Tempest

THE leading of Japan's financial circles and the reparation of the Yokohama Specie Bank and Bank of Taiwan have been completely followed by the Emergency Decree ordering a partial moratorium on April 22.

In the meanwhile, all banks stopped the Exchange for two days, April 22 and 23 in order to allow the panic to subside, in collaboration with the new government. The Bank of Japan endeavored, with the government, to successfully face the crisis, by taking a generous attitude in estimating the value of securities and granting loans even on a holiday, April 24, so as to prepare for the settlement of the two days closing of the banks.

As to the suspension of business of the Bank of Taiwan and the Jugo Ginko (Fifteenth Bank), which gave no small shock to the depositors, it was practically an accomplished fact that had long been expected by those familiar with the financial condition of the country. The measure of this critical condition to the general public, however, brought home to them the recklessness of their anxiety over the banks in general. Under these circumstances, the close for two days was effective in calming the panic's storm.

The financial market of the country, as early as Tokyo, on April 25, the day following the general closing of business of the banks, regained tranquility to successfully that all the banking houses, save a few restored to normal conditions. Depositors who had drawn their money from the banks in consternation were rather at a loss what to do with the money and a large number of them ran again to the banks and restored their deposits, particularly in the case of the first rate banks.

The issue of convertible notes by the Bank of Japan as a consequence of the extraordinary loans has considerably increased since the latter part of March when the bank runs started. Particularly since April 20 when the financial world was confronted with the panic, the issue of notes by the Bank of Japan showed the record-breaking figures of 2,000,000,000 yen in the amount of issue and 2,100,000,000 yen, in the amount loaned, on the Bank's balance-sheet on April 25.

In the meantime, as a result of the people's minds becoming stabilized by the moratorium, both the issue of convertible notes and loans have been markedly reduced, so that the former slightly exceeded 2,-

Digitized by Google

000,000,000 yen, while loans figured at 1,500,000,000 yen, at the end of April. Although the amount of issue expanded to twice that of normal days and that of loans was four times this was unavoidable, in view of the panic.

The fact that a comparatively small number of banks resorted to the rescue loans of the Bank of Japan on April 25, that the total amount loaned by the head office of the government bank up to 3 p.m. on the same day was not more than 13,000,000 yen, and that the total amount of re-deposits reached 10,000,000 yen evidenced the return to a stabilized condition.

Before the close of the moratorium an extraordinary session of the Diet was convened and it passed a bill for the government guarantees to the extent of 700,000,000 yen. This brought about further stability. The Bank of Japan made certain loans and the banks throughout the country were able to reserve funds to meet emergency payments.

Not much withdrawal of deposits took place however. Deposits in current account increased if anything

The question is whether the banks that suspended business will be able to reopen or not. It is expected that the Bank of Japan with the assistance of the government will take measures to minimize the trouble and that the banks will be rescued eventually.

The influence of the panic on foreign trade is expected to be very slight because the crisis was principally caused by domestic circumstances, not external conditions. If there is any effect on foreign trade, it will a result of the depreciation of the yen's value in the exchange market. The decline of the yen is favourable to export and disadvantageous to import, so it will influence favourably merchandise already imported. Importers in general, however, are in a very depressed condition since the disclosure of the condition of the Bank of Taiwan, and the depreciation of the yen will hardly do much to rescue these traders; all the less so, as commercial circles are suffering from wounds received in the last panic and are, consequently, refraining from activity in import transactions.

As the panic was caused by impairment of the internal credit of the country, and not by any such circumstances as dissipation on the national resources, the effects of the economic crisis should disappear completely. But, as it is inevitable that people misjudge current events and regard matters in an apathetic manner, it is possible that trouble will occur again if the leaders do not display the utmost sagacity. Provided that the financial and economic leadership does not fail in the important work of restoration and has the whole nation behind it, an era of prosperity should dawn before long.

Digitized by Google

000,000,000 yen, while loans figured at 1,500,000,000 yen, at the end of April. Although the amount of issue expanded to twice that of normal days and that of loans was four times this was unavoidable, in view of the panic.

The fact that a comparatively small number of banks resorted to the rescue loans of the Bank of Japan on April 25, that the total amount loaned by the head office of the government bank up to 3 p.m. on the same day was not more than 13,000,000 yen, and that the total amount of re-deposits reached 10,000,000 yen evidenced the return to a stabilized condition.

Before the close of the moratorium an extraordinary session of the Diet was convened and it passed a bill for the government guarantees to the extent of 700,000,000 yen. This brought about further stability. The Bank of Japan made certain loans and the banks throughout the country were able to reserve funds to meet emergency payments.

Not much withdrawal of deposits took place however. Deposits in current account increased if anything

The question is whether the banks that suspended business will be able to reopen or not. It is expected that the Bank of Japan with the assistance of the government will take measures to minimize the trouble and that the banks will be rescued eventually.

The influence of the panic on foreign trade is expected to be very slight because the crisis was principally caused by domestic circumstances, not external conditions. If there is any effect on foreign trade, it will a result of the depreciation of the yen's value in the exchange market. The decline of the yen is favourable to export and disadvantageous to import, so it will influence favourably merchandise already imported. Importers in general, however, are in a very depressed condition since the disclosure of the condition of the Bank of Taiwan, and the depreciation of the yen will hardly do much to rescue these traders; all the less so, as commercial circles are suffering from wounds received in the last panic and are, consequently, refraining from activity in import transactions.

As the panic was caused by impairment of the internal credit of the country, and not by any such circumstances as dissipation on the national resources, the effects of the economic crisis should disappear completely. But, as it is inevitable that people misjudge current events and regard matters in an apathetic manner, it is possible that trouble will occur again if the leaders do not display the utmost sagacity. Provided that the financial and economic leadership does not fail in the important work of restoration and has the whole nation behind it, an era of prosperity should dawn before long.

Digitized by Google

Tokyo in Resuscitation

(2)

Canal and Underground Work

The canal work of the Tokyo Municipality consists of 11 repairs, 1 new construction and 1 reclamation work, numbering thirteen in all. Of the above undertakings, the reclamation work has already been finished; the repairing work on the Onagi and nine other rivers has been partly set about; 43 per cent of the total work has made progress, the percentage of the completion of the work reaching 34 per cent.

On the other hand, the work of readjusting things underground, which has hitherto formed a subject of much discussion, has at length ended in digging a common drain for readjusting the pipes underneath the side-walks. The work in this direction is now making steady progress.

Water Supply

Tokyo City has formed a plan of extending the water supply work as a continuing undertaking for thirteen years from 1913 to 1925, the total expenditure being estimated at 47,600,000 yen. Whereas the water supply power per day prior to this scheme was 6,000,000 cubic *shaku* (4 cubic *shaku* per capita, the whole population of the city being estimated at 1,500,000), it was found essential to extend the supply work so as to be capable to supply 18,000,000 cubic *shaku* of water per day, vix. 6 cubic *shaku* per head, the population being now estimated at 3,000,000, as a result of the increase of population as well as the progress of the times, and the city has a plan of constructing a new reservoir capable of containing 440,000,000 cubic *shaku* of water, three *ri* in circumference, amongst the hills at Murayama about ten *ri* north-west of the city, drawing water from the Tama River by means of a covered drain, thus leading water to the Wadahari and Sakai new filter beds, besides the existing Yodobashi filter by under-viaducts and increasing, besides, the number of pipes in the city.

This extension scheme was making rapid progress and approached its completion prior to the Great Earthquake of 1923, but sustained considerable loss by that calamity. The Tokyo Municipality, in its plan of rehabilitation, has decided to complete the extension work, altering part of the plan and going on with the already planned work.

The plan is as follows:—

(1) The restoration work for the water supply consists principally in reconstruction of water pipes in the city, re-establishing the Yodobashi filter which was badly damaged by the earthquake, and newly constructing a Tamagawa viaduct. About 96 per cent of the work on the Yodobashi filter has already been completed; the new Tamagawa viaduct has been entirely completed; and the progress of the work of laying pipes in the city has now reached about 87 percent of the whole undertaking.

(2) As for the water work extension work, the construction of the upper half of the lower dam of the Murayama Reservoir and its accessory work, toge-

Digitized by Google

Tokyo in Resuscitation

(2)

Canal and Underground Work

The canal work of the Tokyo Municipality consists of 11 repairs, 1 new construction and 1 reclamation work, numbering thirteen in all. Of the above undertakings, the reclamation work has already been finished; the repairing work on the Onagi and nine other rivers has been partly set about; 43 per cent of the canal work has made progress, the percentage of the completion of the work reaching 34 per cent.

On the other hand, the work of readjusting thirty underground, which has hitherto formed a subject of much discussion, has at length ended in digging a common drain for readjusting the pipes underneath the side-walks. The work in this direction is now making steady progress.

Water Supply

Tokyo City has formed a plan of extending the water supply work as a continuing undertaking for thirteen years from 1913 to 1925, the total expenditure being estimated at 47,000,000 yen. Whereas the water supply power per day prior to this scheme was 6,000,000 cubic shaku (4 cubic shaku per capita, the whole population of the city being estimated at 1,500,000), it was found essential to extend the supply work so as to be capable to supply 18,000,000 cubic shaku of water p r day, viz. 6 cubic shaku per head, the population being now estimated at 3,000,000, as a result of the increase of population as well as the progress of the times, and the city has a plan of constructing a new reservoir capable of containing 440,000,000 cubic shaku of water, three ri in circumference, amongst the hills at Nara-yama about ten ri north-west of the city, drawing water from the Tama River by means of a covered drain, thus leading water to the Wadabari and Sakai new filter beds, besides the existing Yodobashi filter by under-viaducts and increasing, besides, the number of pipes in the city.

This extension scheme was making rapid progress and approached its completion prior to the Great Earthquake of 1923, but sustained considerable loss by that calamity. The Tokyo Municipality, in its plan of rehabilitation, has decided to complete the extension work, altering part of the plan and going on with the already planned work.

The plan is as follows:—

(1) The restoration work for the water supply consists principally in reconstruction of water pipes in the city, re-establishing the Yodobashi filter which was badly damaged by the earthquake, and newly constructing a Tamagawa viaduct. About 95 per cent of the work on the Yodobashi filter has already been completed; the new Tamagawa viaduct has been entirely completed; and the progress of the work of laying pipes in the city has now reached about 87 percent of the whole undertaking.

(2) As for the water work extension work, the construction of the upper half of the lower dam of the Murayama Reservoir and its accessory work, toge-

Digitized by Google

city not the least in the first and second principal work in the chief parts of the water with the undertaking of laying a new water main between Wadanori and Shinjuku have been going on successfully. The progress of the work is about 55 per cent at the Murayama Reservoir and about 60 per cent of the pipe-laying.

Sewerage

As it is essential that the city should complete the sewerage as one of the fundamental institutions of the city planning, from the standpoint of the hygiene of the citizens and the beautification of the city, the Tokyo Municipality has realized the necessity of constructing adequate drains as early as the beginning of the Meiji Era, but it was not until the early part of May, 1911, that the city authorities commenced their sewerage work, having previously been impressed by the shortage of funds and many other circumstances.

In 1911 the first period of enacting, that is work at Shitaya, Asaku and part of Kanda, was started and continued in 1923. In the meantime, the city did not neglect to carry out emergency sewerage work in such parts of the city as are injured by the very limited work. In 1921 the second period of work, that in Nishinoya, Kyobashi, Hatsu-cho, and part of Shiba was taken up, and it was while this undertaking was making steady development that it was severely damaged by the earthquake disaster.

However, it has now been decided not only to carry out the restoration of the earthquake, but to set about the principal work in the chief parts of the city not the least in the first and second period works and destroyed by the earthquake following the earthquake, while it is also planned as accessory work to carry on the second underground undertaking in such districts as are often attacked by the sudden rise of rainwater.

The sewerage restitution work consists in reconstructing the Mikawashima Sewage Disposing Depot, the Asakusa Pumping Depot, and relaying the drainage in the larger parts of Shitaya and Asakusa, parts of Kanda and Hongo. The work has already been completed.

The sewerage improvement work, on the one hand, consists in constructing the first period work planned prior to the earthquake, that is the work on the Mikawashima Sewage Disposing Depot, the Asakusa Pumping Depot, and the unfinished undertaking of drainage in part of Asakusa and along the line in the second period undertaken by the work on the piping out in Ueno and part of Shiba as well as the work of laying pipes for the completion of the third period work consisting of the construction of sewage disposing tanks in at Hijiri and Tokiwa, and the piping thereto in the parts of the city.

Of the afore-said kinds, that of the first period has been completed, and part of work has reached progress of about 55 per cent, that of the third period shows progress of nearly 5" per cent and is being carried on energetically.

Medical Institutions

Prior to the great earthquake, the charity hospital at Tsukiji was the only institution under municipal management for the medical treatment of paupers, others being left to individuals or philanthropic organizations. The result was

Digitized by Google

ther with the undertaking of laying a new water main between Wadabori and Shinjuku have been going on successfully. The progress of the work is about 98 per cent at the Murayama Reservior and about 60 per cent of the pipe-laying.

Sewerage

As it is essentially important to complete the sewerage as one of the fundamental institutions of the city planning, from the viewpoint of the hygiene of the citizens and the healthy condition of the city, the Tokyo Municipality recognized the necessity of constructing adequate drains as early as the beginning of the Meiji Era, but it was not until the 44th year of Meiji (1911) that the city authorities commenced their sewerage work, having previously been impeded by the shortage of funds and many other circumstances.

In 1911 the first period undertaking, that is work at Shitaya, Asakusa and part of Kanda, was started and completed in 1923. In the meantime, the city did not neglect to carry out emergency sewerage work in such parts of the city as are frequented by the overflow of rainwater. In 1920 the second period work, that in Nihonbashi, Kyobashi, Marunouchi, and part of Shiba was taken up, and it was while this undertaking was making steady development that it was so severely damaged by the earthquake disaster.

However, it has now been decided not only to carry out the restoration of the already constructed sewers, destroyed by the earthquake, and continuing the second period undertaking, but to set about the principal work in the chief parts of the city not included in the first and second period works and destroyed by the conflagration following the earthquake, while it is also planned as accessory work to carry on the second underground undertaking in such districts as are often attacked by the inundation of rainwater.

The sewerage restoration work consists in reconstructing the Mikawashima Sewage Disposing Depot, the Asakusa Piping Depot, and rehabilitating the drainage in the larger parts of Shitaya and Asakusa, parts of Kanda and Hongo. The work has already been completed.

The sewerage improvement work, on the other hand, consists in completing the first period work planned prior to the earthquake, that is the work on the Mikawashima Sewage Disposing Depot and the unfinished undertaking of drainage in part of Asakusa and also going on with the second period undertaking, viz. the work on the piping depots at Marunouchi and part of Shiba as well as the work of laying pipes not so far completed; the third period work consisting of the construction of sewage disposing depots at Honjo and Fukagawa, and of piping depots in various parts of the city.

Of the above undertakings, that of the first period has been completed; the second period work has realized progress of about 50 per cent, that of the third period shows progress of nearly 37 per cent and is being carried on energetically.

Medical Institutions

Prior to the great earthquake, the charity hospital at Tsukiji was the only institution under municipal management for the medical treatment of paupers others being left to individuals or philanthropic organizations. The result was

Digitized by Google

that all those institutions lacked co-operative activities, and consequently were far from being adequate. To make bad worse, the earthquake destroyed the greater part of these medical institutions, including the charity hospital at Tsukiji.

In view of this, the municipal authorities plan to newly instal five cost-price medical treatment offices and charity hospitals combined in the city at expenditures amounting to 3,100,000 yen, besides the re-establishment of the Tsukiji Charity Hospital, in their general scheme of rehabilitation. Sites for four of these new hospitals have already been chosen, while two of them are already under construction and preparations have been made for starting building on another one.

Disposal of Street Dust

The scavenging of Tokyo City, before the earthquake, was of a quite primitive method; the city scavengers collected dust and dirt once in a while from the dust-bins of the residents and carried them to the reclaimed ground at Fukagawa, where they were committed to the flames. This resulted in general neligence in the disposal of dirt, causing difficulty in maintaining the healthy condition of the city at large.

Taking it for granted that the cleaning of the streets by perfectly disposing of the dust is an urgent need for the hygine of the citizens, it was while the municipal authorities became awake to this vital question and were meditating on some effective method of solving it, that the earthquake occurred. Now they have decided to newly install 27 public dumps and 4 dust-disposing depots at the expense of 1,850,000 yen, so as to carry int, effect their plan of making it capable to dispose of 200,000 *kan* of dirt each day. Seven of the public dumps have already been built, while preparations are being made for starting building work on four of them and they are now planning the construction of another one. As to the dust-disposing depots, the construction work on those for the desiccating and compressing process, which was to be started in June this year, has been suspended owing to certain circumstances; they are preparing for starting building work on those of the high-temperature burning system; as for those for another process, they are inquiring for their sites.

Central Wholesale Market

The distribution of daily necessities in Japan, generally speaking, has heretofore been made in a very complicated manner; their retail prices have to necessity been high, as they have inevitably passed through many hands before they reach the consumers. If there were installed markets, most of them have been under private management.

In consequence, how to realize a fundamental improvement in regard to the distribution of daily necessities has remained a very important pending question.

In view of the situation, the Tokyo Municipality established 20 municipal markets for daily necessities in the city, for the first time, in 1918, thus taking one step towards the solution of this vital problem. However, as it was found that it was far from being effective unless a central wholesale market were installed under the direct management of the

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

municipality, the city officials were contemplating establishing such a market, when they were overwhelmed by the disaster of 1923.

Taking advantage of the opportunity, therefore, of the demolition of the municipal fish market at Nihonbashi, a large distributing centre of fish and shells, by the earthquake-fire, the City installed emergency wholesale fish markets in Honjo, Kanda and Nihonbashi. Later on, the Tsukiji Main Fish Market (covering an area of 98,000 *tsubo*) and the Kanda and Koto Branch Markets (about 10,230 *tsubo* in area for the former and about 5,200 *tsubo* for the latter) have been decided on, according to the general scheme of restoration. The Tsukiji Main Market is to be completed within three years from 1924 and the two branches at Kanda and Koto within five years from 1924.

The construction of the Tsukiji Main Fish Market is at present being designed by the city authorities; the building of the Koto Branch was set about in June, 1926, about 47 per cent of the work being in progress; work on the Kanda Branch is to be started immediately on the completion of the purchase of the site.

With reference to the expenditure required to erect them, of the total expenses amounting to 15,000,000 yen for the establishment of the Tsukiji Main Market, the Government Treasury will contribute 3,750,000 yen, while the balance of 11,250,000 yen will be for the municipal account. The total expense of the construction of the two branch markets amounting to 6,400,000 yen will be shouldered by the Tokyo City in full, but it is anticipated that the city authorities will demand low-interest loans from the Government.

Educational Institutions

The larger part of the elementary school buildings numbering about 200, in existence in Tokyo prior to the great earthquake of 1923, were of wood. As a wood building cannot last longer than 20 or 30 years, the Municipality was groaning under an intolerable financial burden, as a result of the necessity of being almost permanently engaged in rebuilding work, at the rate of four or five schools per year on an average. This made the city authorities realize the necessity of replacing these wooden buildings by ferro-concrete, one after another. The conflagration which followed the earthquake, however, reduced to ashes 170 elementary school buildings. The education of the children should not be overlooked even for a day, so the city offered barracks to these victimized elementary school immediately after the catastrophe, and formed a plan of putting up permanent buildings for the 170 schools, as a five-year continuing undertaking starting from 1924. According to the scheme, those school buildings to be reconstructed will hold 24 classes each and cover an area of 1,220 *tsubo* per building, which will be three-storeyed earthquake-proof and fire-proof reinforced concrete structures.

Five schools whose building had already been set about prior to the earthquake as well as seven other schools planned after it have been completed; preparations are at present being made for the building of twenty-four schools; thirty-two others are now in planning; as for the rest, they are in preparation for designing.

Digitized by Google

Last Days of Lafcadio Hearn

As Narrated by His Wife

(*Translated*)

IT was about three o'clock in the afternoon of September 19 in the 37th year of Meiji (1904) that I entered Hearn's study to find him quietly walking to and fro with his hand on his breast. I asked him: "Is anything wrong with you?" He replied: "I've caught a fresh illness." "A fresh illness? What kind?" asked I. He said: "Heart disease." "It must be on account of having overworked your heart, I suppose. You had better rest for a little while," I told him.

I immediately sent for Dr. Kizawa, a physician whom Hearn used to consult. Hearn used to conceal his agony of suffering from me and our children, and would say: "Please stay away from me: there is no anxiety about me." It was the case also on that day. However, I was much concerned about his condition. I sat beside him. He squatted before his desk and began to write. I told him to rest as I thought it would only increase his suffering if he worked. But this was Hearn's answer: "Let me do as I like, if you please." He soon finished his writing. Then he said to me: "Here is a letter to Umé-san. Whatever trouble may occur, she will be a good adviser to you. This suffering of mine, if it gets graver, most likely will cause me to die. Although I pass away you should never cry. Buy a little jar which may cost three or four sen, and put my bones into it. The jar should be buried in the graveyard of a small rural temple. Should you mourn my death, I shall never be joyful. Play *karuta* with the children. You needn't inform my friends of my death. If anybody inquires about me, simply tell him: 'Ha! ha! He disappeared some time ago.' That's quite enough!"

"Please don't talk so sadly," said I, "Such a thing will not occur." But he said: "This is no joke; I am truly speaking from my innermost heart. You have to take it seriously." He emphasized this and then took his ease, murmuring: "It can't be helped," as if feeling no uneasiness.

After a few minutes he seemed to have got rid of the pain. He said: "I should like to take a cold bath." He insisted on it, and went to the bath-room. After the cold bath the pain seemed to have left from him entirely. He said: "Strange as it seems, now I'm all right, I'm quite well. Now, Mama-san, (He always used to address me in this manner) that the sickness has been driven away, how do you think of my taking a little whisky?" I thought it would not be good for his heart to take the strong liquor, but he said it would not matter at all. I told him: "I'm a little anxious about your taking whisky, but if you desire it so much you had better take a little mixed with some cold water."

He touched his mouth to the glass and said: "I shall not die now," which consoled me. Then he confessed to me

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

that he had first experienced the pain in his heart a few days before, and added "Let me take a little rest." He laid himself quietly in the bed, with a book in his hand.

By this time Dr. Kizawa had arrived. Hearn murmured: "What shall I do?" and went to the drawing room to meet the physician, leaving the book on the bed. "I beg your pardon, the illness has already gone," he told the doctor and laughed. Dr. Kizawa examined him and found nothing wrong with him. Soon jokes and merry talk between host and doctor followed.

Hearn was of robust constitution by birth, and he disliked to consult a physician or to take medicine, as if he were a child. Unless on my advice he would not consult a doctor on any account. When he was a little indisposed and I was held back in persuading him to go to the physician's, he would say with laughter: "I am so glad, because you have forgotten 'the doctor,' but——"

He used to walk round the study or to and fro on the balcony, when he was not writing at his desk, and indulged in profound meditation. Even while he was somewhat sick he would hardly stay in bed.

Two or three days before his death a cherry tree near the roof of his study began to bloom, out of season. This was discovered by O-Saki, one of the maid-servants, (a daughter of Otokichi of Yaidzu,) and she told me of the mystery. In our domestic life any seemingly trifling thing would interest all of us. For instance, "A small bamboo-root today emerged in the bushes in the rear courtyard;" "A lovely yellow butterfly is flying about in the garden;" "Kadzuo (our eldest son) has discovered an ant-nest;" "A big frog is on the door step;" "How beautiful the evening sun-beams are! They are gradually changing their colours," and what not. Such trifles were always reported to Hearn, who would listen with joy. Such matters were one of his hobbies. Frogs, butterflies, ants, spiders, bambooroots, and evening sun-beams were among the best friends of Papa-san (so was Hearn called at our home.)

As it is popularly believed in Japan that the untimely blooming of any plant is an unhappy omen, I could not help being concerned with the unseasonable blooming of the cherry-tree. However, when I informed Hearn, he was happy as usual. "Thanks," said he, and approached the balcony. He looked up at the lovely flowers and cried: "Well! As it is as warm as spring, the cherry-blossoms thought the time for them has arrived and they have bloomed, but. . . . ." There was a pause and deep meditaiton. He continued: "Be that as it may, I feel very sorry for them: it will soon be colder again and then they will fade away!" The flowers were in bloom for only one day, September 23, and fell to the ground very pitifully and lonesomely that evening. This cherry-tree was the centre of the love and admiration of Hearn each year, and it seems that it bloomed to bid farewell to him.

Hearn was rather an early riser, but he used to sit down early in the morning before the *hibachi* and calmly smoke a Japanese pipe until I went to his study as he was afraid to "break my and our

Digitized by Google

children's pleasant dreams of the early morning."

On the evening of September 26 in the 37th year of Meiji (1904) Hearn passed away. When I entered his room about half past 6 o'clock that morning, he had already awakened and was smoking Japanese tobacco as usual. "Good morning, my dear," said I, but he made no answer; he seemed to be meditating. After a while he told me: "A very strange dream came to me last night." We both used to tell our dreams to each other, so I asked: "What kind of a dream was it?" "I travelled to a very faraway land, a long, long distance away. However, I'm now smoking here like this. Was it true that I made such a long journey? How funny dreamland is! It was neither in a foreign country nor in Japan that I travelled," he added and seemed to be quite happy and content.

Our three children would always say to their father on going to bed every night, "Papa! Good night. Pleasant dreams." And Hearn would answer: "The same to you," in English or "Yoki yumé mimasho" (Let us dream a good dream) in Japanese.

It was on the very morning of his death, that Kadzuo, before going to school, came to him and said: "Good morning." As Papa replied "Pleasant dreams," the little boy happened to say "The same to you."

Eleven o'clock in the morning came, when he peeped at a kakemono (hanging picture) in the alcove, while walking to and fro on the balcony. The picture was entitled "Asa-hi" or "Morning Sun," which represented a beach scene with many crows awakening and starting on flight. It was something like a picture of dreamland. Hearn's attention was attracted by this beautiful picture. He said: "How beautiful this is! I would like to live in such a fairy land as this."

Hearn took great interest in listening to insects' music. This autumn we kept a *matsumushi* in a tiny cage. Towards the end of September, the insect's lonesome and pathetic little voice made us feel unusually pessimistic. I asked Hearn: "How do you find its voice?" He said: "That small insect is so kind to me as to sing in a very sweet voice. How grateful I am! But, now that the cold weather sets in, does it not know that it is doomed to death drawing near? I am very sorry for it. O! pitiful insect, may Heaven have mercy on it!" And he promised me that it should be set free in the grass some warm day.

The strange blooming of the cherry-tree, the long trip to dreamland and the pathetic music of the *matsumushi*, all of these seemed to me ominous signs of his death. When I remember them even today, I cannot help feeling unutterably sad.

In the afternoon he began to search in his bookshelves, looking for a book to be presented to Mr. Fujisaki, one of his intimate friends, then attached to the Manchurian Army at the front, the Russo-Japanese War then raging. Finally he wrote a letter to Mr. Fujisaki. After taking supper with the whole family he seemed to be happier than usual: he joked and laughed aloud. "Papa, good papa," "Sweet Chickens", and other joking words were exchanged between father and his beloved children. Soon he took leave

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

of his children and was taking a walk on the balcony near his study as usual. After about one hour he approached me with a sad look. In a very low voice he murmured in my ear: "Mama-san, that illness of the other day has come back to me again." I accompanied him to his room where after walking about with his hand on his chest. After a while he lay down on the bed in a quiet manner, as I persuaded him to do so. A few moments later he was no longer of this earth. As if feeling no more pain in his heart, he was in eternal slumber, even a smile flickering about his mouth. Heaven-destined as he might have been, I would have taken care of him longer, until his true final moment arrived. A too unexpected and simple death he died, it seemed to me.

The Public Cemetery of Zoshigaya was chosen as his burial place, as it was so lonely and so well located that Hearn loved it and used to take strolls in the neighbourhood. Often he had haunted the place, and sometimes took me and our children, telling me that he would show me a very fine place. He often would say: "Between Sekiguchi and Zoshigaya the location is excellent. Were I about twenty years younger I would have a cozy house built on that hill."

It was our last stroll, when we, hand in hand, went near Zoshigaya in order to examine the gates of residences here and there, so as to serve as models for our gate, as we were then having it re-erected. The work of repair to the gate was started two days before his death, so it was hurried after his passing away so that it might be completed before the funeral services were held.

JAPAN AS I SAW IT

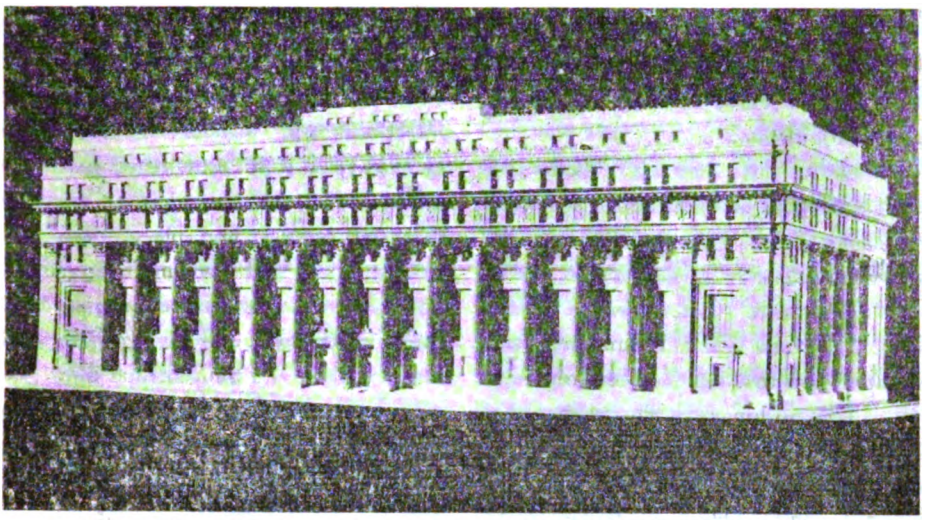
By Dr. Charles E. Jefferson, D. D., L.L.D.

(Interviewed by Jiro Kozai of The Japan Magazine)

I am glad to report that my sojourn in Japan was in every way pleasant. The weather was perfect and Fujiyama showed herself at her very best. The Inland Sea (Setouchi) was never lovelier. Nor did Hakone or Chuzenji or Matsushima ever exhibit more charm. The railroad management was remarkably efficient, and the hotels were everything that an American traveler could desire. I was greatly pleased by the spirit and behavior of the people, and was deeply impressed by their courtesy and good humor. Whatever defects they may possess were not thrust upon my attention. I came away in ignorance of anything unpleasant in Japan.

While I was interested in your natural scenery, especially your gardens and your dwarf trees, I was far more deeply interested in your illustrious men and in the conversation which I was permitted to have with them. The graciousness of their hospitality I can never forget, and the privilege of dining in the homes of some of them I count one of the outstanding features of my world tour. I was impressed by their clear vision, their breadth of view, and their noble spirit, and I am more deeply convinced than ever that there is no reason why Japan and the United States should not continue steadfast friends for a thousand years.

Digitized by Google



The new Mitsui Company's building, now in course of construction in Tokyo.

The House of Mitsui

NO family in Japan has enjoyed a longer uninterrupted history of prosperity through centuries of political and economic upheaval than the Mitsui Family. Their origin can be traced back to Fujiwara-no-Kamatari (620—669 A. D.), a constructive statesman of ancient Japan and the founder of the famous Fujiwara Family. One of his branch families surnamed Mitsui which was established somewhere in the 12th Century in Omi Province near Kyoto was the beginning of the present Mitsuis. In the middle of the 16th Century when Oda Nobunaga overthrew the Ashikaga Government and established a new régime, Takayasu Mitsui, the last occupant of the lake-side castle at Omi, fled to Ise Province where he settled down.

Sokubei Mitsui, the eldest son of Takayasu, embarked on a commercial career, giving up his military profession. He engaged in brewery at Matsuzaka, a provincial town in Isé, and called his shop "Echigo-ya," after the title of his father, Lord of Echigo. He eldest son, Saburozaemon, camp up to Yedo (new Tokyo) soon after Tokugawa Iyeyasu's establishment of the Shogunate there. Saburozaemon, thus one of the pioneer merchant of Yedo, opened a drapery store in the Shogun's capital.

Hachirobei Mitsui, the youngest brother of Saburozaemon, after helping his brother at the Yedo store for 14 years returned to his native town in Isé where he set himself up as a money lender, besides trading in Nishijin brocades and other draperies, noted products of Kyoto, in Yedo. Thanks to his skilful management, the Echigo-ya of Yedo made signal success in its business, and Hachirobei was appointed purveyor to the Shogunate, a much coveted privilege under the Tokugawa régime, in 1687. The drygoods store was under the management of the Mitsui House

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

until it was separated from it in 1904. The business was ceded as a going concern to a new company, the Mitsukoshi Department Store.

In addition to drapery, Hachirobei started a banking business in Yedo, which was followed by the establishment of business headquaters in Kyoto and that of the Osaka branch. On the establishment of the latter in 1690 Hachirobei was nominated financial agent of the Government. Hachirobei adopted the exchange system instead of coveying each between Osaka and Yedo, which was not only expensive but subject to many risks. The Mitsuis continued to engage in the exchange business until the fall of the Shogunate in 1867. From 1707 onward the family also was usually appointed court bankers on the occasion of various Imperial ceremonies. The treasury as well as the banking business was carried on in this manner up to the Meiji Era when it was reorganized on a modern basis as the Mitsui banking department.

Hachirobei was the father of many children, all of whom he brought up with adequate moral and commercial training, and he set up a number of branch families for his sons and daughters, giving them various branches of his business. Hachirobei died in 1694, leaving a written will which minutely prescribed a system of close fraternal co-operation. It was on the basis of this will that the family constitution was framed. The constitution has been modified in course of time to meet changing needs, but the spirit of the original family code remains intact, and eleven Mitsui families control their combined interests among themselves through the agency of the Omotokata, afterwards incorporated as the Mitsui Gomei Kaisha.

Hachirobei's decendants faithfully continued the family tradition of commercial enterprise and business acumen. As early as 1708 they established purchasing agents for imported goods at Nagasaki. In those days, it will be remembered, foreign trade was carried on only at that port, and a chartered body of merchants alone were specially privileged to buy imports. The Mitsui were thus interested in foreign trade many generations before the present Mitsui Bussan Kaisha or Mitsui & Co. was incorporated after the Meiji Restoration.

During and after the Restoration period the Mitsui House rendered many more services of various kinds for the new administration than under the old régime. The Mitsui financed to a large extent the Imperial army, helping it subjugate the rebellious factions and restoring the Imperial rule. On the occasion of the transfer of the Capital from Kyoto to Tokyo in 1868 Takaaki Mitsui attended as treasurer on the Imperial journey. Acting later as treasurers for the Meiji Government which was helplessly weak in this direction, they did much towards the rehabilitation of public finance. Besides facilitating the work of the Restoration, the Mitsuis in the commercial and industrial fields did pioneer work during the period of reconstruction that followed. In the process of adopting Western methods of business and a modern system of industry during the Meiji Era they have invariably taken a leading role freely enlisting the commercial as well as technical talent of the country.

Mitsui Gomei Kaisha

Mitsui Gomei Kaisha is the head-

Digitized by Google

quarters of the combined Mitsui interests, Being an organization developed from the Omotokata of the pre-Meiji Era, and incorporated in 1891, the Gomei Kaisha directs and supervises the bank, the trading firm, mines, mills, and warehouses under its control. The following are the principal companies under its direct control:

(1) Mitsui Ginko, or The Mitsui Bank, Ltd.
(2) Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, or Mitsui & Co., Ltd.
(3) Mitsui Kozan Kabushiki Kaisha, or The Mitsui Mining Company, Ltd.
(4) Toshin Soko Kabushiki Kaisha, or The Toshin Warehouse Company, Ltd.

Besides, directly or through its subsidiary companies the Gomei Kaisha has controlling interests in many other companies in different branches of trade and industry. Most noteworthy of them are as follow:

(1) Mitsui Shintaku Kabushiki Kaisha, or The Mitsui Trust Company, Ltd.
(2) The Shibaura Engineering Works, Ltd.
(3) The Hokkaido Colliery and Steamship Compamy, Ltd.
(4) The Taisho Marine and Fire Insurance Company, Ltd.
(5) The Japan Steel Works, Ltd.
(6) Dai-Nippon Celluloid Company, Ltd.
(7) Nettai Sangyo Kabushiki Kaisha, or The Tropical Produce Company, Ltd.

The management of Mitsui Gomei Kaisha is in the hands of the Executives elected from among the heads of the eleven Mitsui Families. The Executives conduct and manage the business of the company assisted by the Board of Directors. The company's Estate Department manages the estate and buildings which Gomei Kaisha owns in Tokyo and other towns; the Forestry Department engages in afforestation in Korea and reclamation of waste land in Hokkaido; the Formosan Office manages a tea-plantation on the island, producing one of the best brands of Oolong tea. The camphor industry was ceded to the Formosa Camphor Manufacturing Company, Ltd., in which the Gomei Kaisha holds a large interest.

Besides being a business concern, the Gomei Kaisha is interested in social works. It donates liberally to many educational and charitable institutions or financially assists them at home and abroad. It runs a charity hospital in Tokyo and a technical school at Omuta in Kyushu. In time of disaster it has always been among the first to come to the aid of the victims. In the earthquake of 1923 the Mitsui Relief Committee, as it was called, rendered distinguished service in the rescue work.

Mitsui Ginko
(The Mitsui Bank, Limited)

The banking business of the Mitsui dates from the time when Sokubei Mitsui set himself up as money-lender at Matsuzaka, near Nagoya, just 250 years ago. His youngest son, Hachirobei, inaugurated the banking department of his firm in Yedo in 1683 and another one in Kyoto three years later. From his time onward the business held a peeminent position among the various enterprises of the Mitsui interests.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

The Mitsuis, as we have seen, were for many a generation the means of suppying capital to business firms or companies either in helping them to make a start or to stave off disaster. They also acted from 1690 as financial agents of the Shogunate, and from 1707 were on special occasions appointed treasurers of the Imperial Court in Kyoto. More than once they issued bank-notes on behalf of the central and local governments as well. Under the re-established Imperial Government they continued to act as the government's bankers until as late as 1882 when they transferred the business to the Bank of Japan, in the founding of which the Mitsui House played a prominent part.

Immediately after the Restoration the Mitsuis applied for a government charter to estabish the bank on a modern basis. The application, however, was shelved by the government until the latter enacted the National Bank Law in 1872, adapting the American system. It was in the following year that the First National Bank (predecessor of the present Dai-Ichi Ginko) was established with the cooperation of the Mitsui and other financing houses in Tokyo. Being desirous also of reorganizing their own private business on a new basis the Mitsuis applied again for a charter, which was granted in 1876. Thus in that year the Mitsui Bank was formally founded with a capital of Yen 2,000,000.

Since the reorganization in 1876 the bank's career has been generally smooth although the Bank had to pass through periods of difficulty in the financial history of the Meiji Era. In the early history of modern banking in Japan the banks were not generally in the habit of receiving deposits from the public and absorbed a modicum of national savings.

It was late as 1888 that the Osaka branch of the Mitsui Bank began to receive deposits from the general public. The head office in Tokyo followed suit the following year.

With the passing of the Bank Act and the Finance Act in 1890 the Mitsui Bank discontinued to act as treasurer for the government offices, and has since engaged mainly in commercial business.

In 1898 its capital was increased to Yen 5,000,000, and again in 1909 to Yen 20,000,000; at the same time it was incorporated as a joint-stock bank.

In order to strengthen its resources and cope with the marked development of trade and industry of late, the Bank increaded once more its authorized capita to Yen 100,000,000 in 1919, part of which was subscribed by the public for the first time in its history. This was a new departure. Technically speaking, the Bank has since ceased to be a private bank, though actual control is still in the hands of the Mitsuis.

Since 1913 the Bank has engaged in the foreign exchange business, installing branches in Shanghai in 1917, in New York in 1922, in Bombay and London in 1923, and in Sourabaya in 1925. The new venture has been showing steady growth.

With its head office in Tokyo, where their ancestors set up as bankers 250 years ago, and branches at important cities at home and abroad, the Mitsui Bank is now recognized as one of the most power ul banking institutions in this country. Never having been involved in any big business failure, it has entrenched itself firmly in the confidence of the public.

Digitized by Google

Mitsui Bussan Kaisha
(Mitsui & Co., Ltd.)

The exclusion policy of the Tokugawa Administration persistently pursued during the three hundred years of its government inevitably had a crippling effect on the trading energies of the Japanese people. Even after the country was opened to foreign commerce in the sixties of the past century the people naturally recoiled from the untried fields of foreign trade, and were generally hesitant in embarking on the venture.

The Mitsuis also engaged in trade at the beginning in a rather modest way with a branch office at Yokohama which was installed immediately after the port was opened in 1859. In 1876, however, they entered the business on a fairly large scale, absorbing the Senshu Kaisha, the first trading company on modern lines, organized by the late Marquis Inouye with a view to the promotion of trade.

In the first decade or two after its incorporation, however, the business was not carried on with any remarkable degree of success, partly because of lack of experience in the new field and partly due to the incipient stage of every kind of industry at home.

But the Mitsuis made indefatigable efforts towards the development of trade and industry. For instance, they supported the founding of the Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning Mills and later took its control into their hands and ran the mill, importing Chinese and Indian cotton. In 1884 they established a branch office at Bombay and started the importation of indian cotton in large quantities. This import business throve so vigorously that a few years later a consulate and a shipping line followed them.

They also ran a few silk filatures and did much to improving the qualities of native raw silk. They imported a selected species of grain from Italy and elsewhere, and distributed it freely among sericultural districts. They also despatched itinerant teachers, whose salaries they paid, to teach the art of sericulture throughout the country. They have thus helped to build up one of the Japanese staple industries.

Mitsui had gained an unchallengable position by the time of the close of the Russo-Japanese War.

The ramification of branch offices and representatives grows the world over. They are located in the following places: London, New York, San Francisco, Portland (Oregon), Seattle, Buenos, Aires, Manila, Singapore, Bangkok, Soerabaja, Semarang, Batavia, Culcutta, Rangoon, Bombay, Karachi, Sydney, Melbourne, Hongkong, Saigon, Canton, Amoy, Shanghai, Hankow, Changsha, Chefoo, Tsingtao, Tientsin, Peking, Dairen, Newchwang, Mukden, Changchun, Harbin, Antung, Chemulpo, Seoul, Fusan, Keelung, Taipeh, Taichu, Tainan. Takao, Ako, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe, Tama, (Okayama), Hiroshima, Moji, Wakamatsu, Karatsu, Miike, Nagasaki, Tsuruga, Niigata, Aomori, Muroran, Hakodate, Otaru, Sunagawa, etc., etc.

The list of imports and exports the company deals in covers all sorts of commodities, the turnover of which has grown from year to year.

According to the importance of the product the firm deals in and of the services it renders a separate department is

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

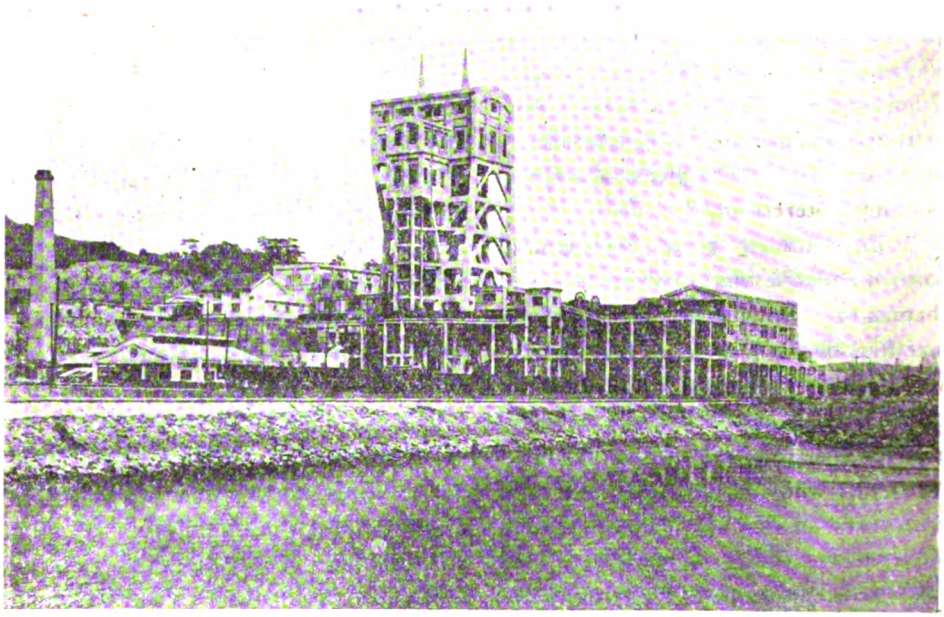
established for each of them. There are now ten departments: sugar, coal, machinery, metal and metal goods, cereals and fertilizers, timber, silk and silk goods, shipping, shipbuilding, and general merchandise. It is to be added that the Cotton Department was incorporated in 1921 as the Oriental Cotton Trading Company, Ltd.

The Company is affiliated with: The Taisho Marine & Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.; Toyo Rayon Co., Ltd.; Toyo Menka Kaisha, Ltd., or The Oriental Corton Trading Co., Ltd.; Société Anonyme Française Bussan in Lyons: Deutsche Bussan Actiengesellschaft in Hamburg; Formosan Sugar Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Toyoda Weaving Machinery Co., Ltd., Nagoya; Yuasa Storage Battery Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Osaka; Onoda Cement Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Onoda; Kyokuto Condensed Milk Co., Ltd., Tokyo; Santai Oil Mills, Ltd., Dairen.

Mitsui Kozan Kabushiki Kaisha
(The Mitsui Mining Co., Ltd.)

It is of comparatively recent date that the Mitsuis have been connected with the mining industry. They had been admonished by an ancestral injunction to refrain from mining enterprise in view of the proverbial risk attached to that undertaking in the pre-Meiji Era. It was in 1888 that they definitely embarked on mining having bought the Miike colliery in Kyushu from the Government.

With the Kamioka metal mine and the Iwaonobori sulphur mine, both of which came into their possession a year or two before, they started by inaugurating new methods of labour as well as up-to-date machinery, and have built up model mines in the course of a few years. It was in the new mine that the first underground



A pit head of the Miike coal fields, operated by Mitsui.

Digitized by Google

pumping station with electrically-driven pumps in Japan was installed.

During the following 20 years or so they absorbed various collieries in Northern Kyushu, Hokkaido and Saghalien, representing total coal-mining concessions of 450,000 acres under their direct management. Meanwhile, they affiliated with several other collieries in Kyushu, Eastern Japan, and Formosa. The Mitsuis have now under their control over 9,000,000 tons of coal output both from their own colllieries and affiliated coal-mines, or roughly one-third of the total Japanese production.

They acquired the gold and silver mines at Kushikino in Kyushu in 1906—11, and the sulphur mines at Kobui and Itaya in 1911—14, both of which, together with the Iwanobori mine, were afterwards transferred to their subsidiary company, the Hokkaido Sulphur Mine Company. Since 1914 they have extended their activity to the coal-tar by-products industry and are engaged in manufacturing coal-tar dyes, picric acid, etc., on an extensive scale.

They have recently extended their activity to include other lines of kindred industries. In 1922 they acquired a paramount interest in the Hokkai Soda Co., Ltd., a leading plant of its kind in Japan; in the following year they annexed a chemical plant owned by the Kagoshima Electric Railway Co., Ltd., which is devoted to the manufacture of carborundum and alminumoxide; in 1924 they took over the management of the Tanaka Iron Mine, Ltd., whose pigiron is recognized as a standard article in the home market.

The mining business was separated from Gomei Kaisha in 1912 with a capital of Yen 20,000,000, which afterwards was increased to the present figure of Yen 100,000,000. Besides the Miike colliery, the mainstay of the Mitsui mining enterprise, they own the Tagawa, and Yamano collieries in Kyushu. the Sunagawa colliery in Hokkaido and the Kawakami colliery in Northern Saghalien, in addition to which they are in possession of the Kamioka and Kushikino metal mines.

The machinery works, zinc refinery, and dyeworks, all at Miike are in prosperous operation, while the harbour plant at Miike is a model one.

Toshin Soko Kabushiki Kaisha
(The Toshin Warehouse Co., Ltd.)

Toshin Soko is one of the largest warehouse companies in this country. The business was for many years under the control of the Mitsui Bank. In 1909 it was separated from the bank's management and incorporated as an independent company under its present firm name, with a capital of Yen 2,000,000, which was later advenced to Yen 5,000,000 in 1918 and again to Yen 15,000,000 in 1923 so as to cope with the rapid progress of its business.

The company owned warehouse of reinforced concrete and brick covering an area of over 70 acres of land in the aggregate in the principal ports in the country; goods and merchandise held therein were valued at about Yen 100,000,000, which easily amounted to one-fifth of the total storage balances in Japanese warehouses. Though the earthquake and fire of September 1, 1923, wiped out the better part of its warehouses in Tokyo and Yokohama, temporary sheds have been erected which are to be replaced by permanent buildings before very long so

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

that the Company may retain its pre-earthquake position.

The Company has five branches, viz. in Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe and Moji. Of these branches those at Kobe and Osaka are of particular note. In the early days of Kobe the warehouses there were only for rice and other commodities intended for the home market. The Mitsuis were the first to build warehouses for the overseas trade, at Kobe. In 1916—17 the company constructed long quays close to the Government harbour works, which, with the railways, command complete land and sea connection as Kobe. The quays take ships of large size. In Osaka the Company owns an area of several acres with sheds of several thousand *tsubo* adjacent to the new harbour. A ferro-concrete warehouse was recently erected at Sakurajima on the estuary of the Ajikawa, in close proximity to the harbour.

The Company has extended its activity to kindred lines of business. A subsidiary company, Kyoshin Gumi, Ltd., in Osaka is engaged in the packing, loading, and transportation of goods in the Kansai District. Another subsidiary concern, Taisho Unyu, Ltd., with a capital of Yen 2,000,000, operates a number of small steamers for interport service between Kobe and Osaka, and between Yokohama and Tokyo.

Mitsui Shintaku Kabushiki Kaisha
(The Mitsui Trust Company, Ltd.)

Although trust companies have existed in Japan for more than 25 years, their real development is of quite recent date. In January, 1923 the Trust Laws were promulgated for the first time in Japan, and since then the trust business has made considerable development. Among several leading trust companies that are making sound progress, the Mitsui Trust Company has a leading place. Its organization is excellent and it enjoys entire confidence of the general public.

The company was established in March, 1924, with an authorized capital of Yen 30,000,000 (one-fourth paid up). With a lapse of less than three years, its reserve funds now reach Yen 2,000,000. The balance sheet at the end of 1926 shows the total amount of deposits in various forms to be more than Yen 190,000,000, of which over Yen 140,000,000 is in cash.

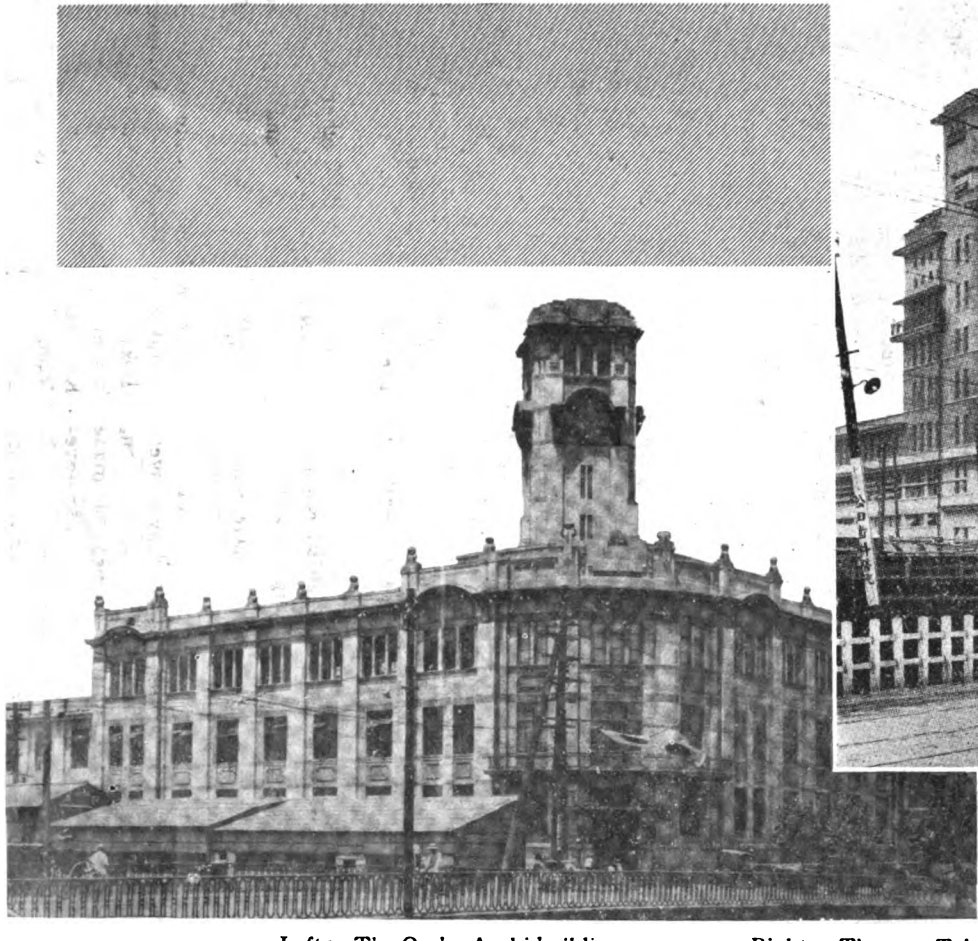
The Mitsui Trust Company is not altogether controlled by the Mitsui Family, and among its large shareholders and directors are included many of the prominent capitalists of the country. Within forty days after its foundation, the Company received trust deposits amounting to Yen 4,500,000 and security trust valued at Yen 2,000,000.

This signal success is mainly due to the reputation and standing of the Mitsuis, but also to the almost virgin field it entered.

The leading business items are: money in trust, (in trust deposit under general direction, each beneficiary received net dividend at the rate of 7% p.a. at the end of last term, Nov. 30, 1926) debentures in trust (at the end of last term, trust of Japanese Government Bonds under contract for use, each beneficiary received net extra dividend at the rate of ½% p.a. to the bond market value other than original interest of the bonds), and immovables, other trust business and legal advisory business, with regard to trust money, etc.

The head office is situated at No. 19, Yuraku-cho 3-chome, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo, in front of Hibiya Park. Mr. U. Yoneyama is president; Messrs. H. Kanzaki, H. Nomori, E. Funao, and N. Jogo, Vice-Presidents. Dr. T. Dan is Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Digitized by Google



Left : The Osaka Asahi building. Right : The new Tokyo Asahi building.

Digitized by Google

Mr. Ryuhei Murayama, President of the Osaka and Tokyo Asahi newspapers.
Left: Dr. H. Shimomura, and right. Mr. S. Ueno directors of the Asahi newspapers.

Digitized by Google

Japan's Newsgatherers

THE TOKYO ASAHI

THE Tokyo Asahi is one of the largest newspapers in Japan, and is internationally known. It originated in the Mezamashi-Shimbun, owned by the late Mr. T. Hoshi, which was taken over by Mr. R. Murayama, the present President of the Asahi Shimbunsha, Ltd. and the late Mr. R. Uyeno, the joint owners of the Osaka Asahi, in July, 1888, when the paper assumed the present title of the Tokyo Asahi.

The newspaper's office was then situated near the Sukiya Bridge, Kyobashi, Tokyo. It was a very small building. Shortly afterwards, it was removed to Takiyama-cho in the same ward. The new office was a large brick and wood two-storied building, and stood out in the neighbourhood. Later, in February, 1903, it was considerably enlarged. But soon it again proved inadequate, and the paper having acquired a neighbouring lot of ground, a large modern renaissance building of 286 *tsubo* in area was erected. Subsequently, it was necessary to construct an addition, and the work of building was about to be started in 1923, when the earthquake and conflagration occurred, reducing to ashes all the office equipment.

The plant was soon re-equipped temporarily and publication was resumed. At the same time, the project was started to build a new office at another place. After careful selection, a site was chosen beside the Sukiya Bridge, and there the present fine building was constructed quite recently.

The completion of the building was celebrated at the beginning of April, when thousands of foreign and Japanese guests were invited to inspect it. Much admiration was aroused by the very complete equipment:

We quote below the impressions voiced by three distinguished foreign guests invited to inspect the building:

The British Ambassador, Sir John Tilley:

"What struck me above everything else is that the Tokyo Asahi is provided with every sort of equipment of modern and most progressive type; efficiency first, in every department."

The German Ambassador, Dr. Solf:

"When I entered the Asahi building, which is magnificent and entirely of a new type, and saw its complete arrangements and up-to-date plant, I felt as if I were in a most advanced European or American country, and I was only awakened by the sight of the papers printed in Japanese characters. The Tokyo Asahi, which is situated at the most important geographical point in Tokyo and is ready to enter upon a new period of activity, is a symbol of Japan, which grasped the civilization of the past two centuries at one leap."

The Spanish Minister:

"The grandness of the building, the fineness and completeness of its construction and the perfection of its system, provided with every necessary department, are really admirable. Once, at home, I visited a leading newspaper office, but it cannot be spoken of in the

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

same breath, regarding scale and equipment, with the Tokyo Asahi."

The erection of the new Tokyo Asahi building was started in March, 1925 and was completed in March, 1927. It has a floor base of 691 *tsubo* and its total building area is 3,978 *tsubo*, which can be enlarged to 6,200 *tsubo*, when an addition is necessary in future. It is a seven storied steel skeleton ferro-concrete structure, earthquake and fire proof, and 102 feet high. It cost 2,500,000 yen. The outside is painted yellow from the third story up to the seventh story. This colour symbolizes "hope" and "struggle." The first and second stories are painted blue, which colour symbolizes "ideal" and "peace." Such colouring of a building is a new departure. The windows have unusual shapes. Those from the third story up are different from those of the first and second stories. The first and second floors being occupied mostly by the press and similar departments, the windows are of a form that characterizes factory windows. For the third, fourth and fifth floors, they are of business office type and for the sixth and seventh floors, they have semi-oval form to befit the auditorium.

The auditorium has seating accommodation for 1,200 persons complete with ventilation, heating and cooling arrangements. Special care was taken of the elevation of the seats, so that those sitting behind can see the stage without hindrance. The stage is 35 feet wide in front is 14 feet in height and stands 3 feet 5 inches above the lowest seat. There are a tea room, a smoking room, a ladies' room, balconies and a promenade attached to the auditorium. The flat roof has a stage, too, on which performances may be given in the summer. On the fifth floor is a hall for exhibitions. The honoured guests' room, the vestibule, the directors' room, the dining room and the entertainment hall are all well designed.

The elevators, and the heating, ventilating, and cooling systems are all that could be desired as are also the fire protection, illumination and sanitary arrangements.

The Editorial, Printing and Business Departments, the heart of a newspaper office, are completely equipped. There are nine super-highspeed cylinder-presses of the Asahi type, each of which has a capacity of 80,000 papers of four pages per hour, a total of 720,000 for the whole plant.

The pride of the Asahi is its Aviation Department. It has been interested in aviation for many years, and it is the only newspaper in Japan which has flying machines of its own, which number at present 13, of which 5 are in reserve. Its *Hatsu-kaze* and *Kochi-kaze* once visited the Russian, German, French, English, Belgian and Italian capitals, flying over Korea, Manchuria and Siberia.

THE OSAKA ASAHI

The Osaka Asahi is under the same management as the Tokyo Asahi. It was founded in January, 1979, since which date nearly 50 years have passed. It proudly claims to have the biggest building, the greatest system and largest circulation in Japan. It was born in a small and old Japanese style building at Minami-dori Itchome, Yedobori, Nishi-ku, Osaka. In 1885, it was removed to the present site at Nakanoshima San-

Digitized by Google

chome, Osaka, and subsequently, the present giant building was erected thereon. The main building has a floor base of 378 *tsubo* and a total building area of 1,480 *tsubo*. It is five-storied with a height of 62 feet, being of ferro-concrete in the modern renaissance style. There is a three-storied annex of 40 *tsubo*. The Printing Department is in an independent two-storied building of 225 *tsubo*. Adjoining it stand a three-storied gravure building of 154 *tsubo* in area and a two-storied boiler building of 70 *tsubo* in area.

The Osaka Asahi building is similar in appearance and complete equipment to the sister building in Tokyo.

Tokyo and Osaka offices are connected by their own special telephone line, laid at a cost to them of about 300,000 yen.

They issue seven periodicals besides their respective dailies. They are the Weekly Asahi, the Asahi Graph (weekly), the Asahi Sports (semi-monthly), the Kinemas and Plays (monthly), the Children's Asahi (monthly), the Asahi Camera (monthly), and the Ladies (monthly).

They are also much interested in cultural and social work, for the progress of which they have been making considerable efforts.

In October, 1926, the Osaka Asahi established the Asahi Hall, as the auditorium in its main building, as a place for lecture meetings or exhibitions, had become inadequate. The hall covers an area of 259 *tsubo* and is seven storied, being 100 feet high. The lecture hall on the fourth floor can accommodate 1,600 persons. It adds much to the appearance of Osaka.

The present greatness of the two Asahis is largely due to the following general principles, under which their president and staff work in the editing and management of the papers:

Conforming to the Imperial command for the accord of all classes of society, the perfection of constitutional government shall be promoted by which the Imperial foundation, coextensive with heaven and earth, shall be guarded and the national peace and happiness shall be enhanced.

Public thought shall be properly controlled, by which contribution shall be made to the progress of civilization and to the prosperity of the nation, endeavoring to keep abreast of the advance of world.

Standing in an independent position, adhering to justice and impartiality and acting on the principle of right and humanity, it is the aim to comment moderately and properly and to report authentically and promptly.

While newspaper reports must be timely they must adhere to faithfulness and kindness, considering the important effects worked by newspapers on the thought of the public.

The Tokyo Asahi and the Osaka Asahi are published by the Asahi Shimbunsha, Ltd., which has a capital of 4,000,000 yen. They employ 3,286 persons. Their Directors are Mr. R. Murayama (President), Messrs. S. Uyeno and H. Shimomura (Managing Directors), Messrs. C. Murayama, S. Konishi, M. Takahara, S. Imamura, and M. Ishii; and Messrs. K. Sugimura and U. Tatsui (Auditors).

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Fascination of the "Nô"

By Zen Yamamoto.

THE origin and development of the "Nô" play have a very interesting history. H.B. Montgomery said about the "Nô" play in his book entitled "The Empire of the East": "The high art of the Japanese theatre is represented by the Nô, which I suppose fills much the same position as does the Italian opera in this country. The Nô is, I believe, very ancient. The written text is sung; there is a principal and a secondary character and a chorus. The dialogue is as ancient, some critics say as archaic, as the time in which the play was written, and I understand it requires being educated up to it in order to fully appreciate the Nô. The ordinary Japanese would probably just as much fail to comprehend or like it as would the Englishman from Mill End, were he taken to Covent Garden, and invited to go into raptures over one of Mozart's or Meyerbeer's masterpieces. A performance of the Nô would probably interest those who find excitment in a representation of Œdipus Tyrannus, or any Greek play. Still, the Nô is appreciated by a large number of the intellectual class in Japan, who find an interest in the representation of this Japanese opera, as I suppose it may be termed."

At the beginning of the fifteenth century, Jirô Yusaki (1333-1384) known as "Kan-Ami," and his son Motokiyo Yusaki who was known as "Se-Ami," were talented and prominent artists and they were patronized and honoured by the Shogun Yoshimitsu (d. 1408) in the Ashikaga Period (1336-1573)—in the course of the 238 years of the Ashikaga Period there ruled in succession 19 Shoguns.

The artists "Kan-Ami" and "Se-Ami" reformed the play of the "Saru-Gaku" which was one of the farces or burlettas growing in popular favour in those days, and they composed the new play with the famous religious songs, the pretty songs of the burletta, and snatches of poetry selected from various sources; they created the new play called the "Nô", which combined the religious dances with popular tales and historical legends.

And then they set a peculiar intonation to the new play and the music was played with Oriental and antique instruments—the flute, the drum, and large and small hand-drums. We can trace back the religious dances and plays of the ancient Japanese; the new play was improved and cultivated by the great artists and the Shogun Yoshimasa (d. 1490). It was once the custom among Japanese warriors to perform it on the occasions of festivals and public ceremonies.

There were four schools of the "Nō" play on those days: Emai's Kon-Paru school, Sakato's Kon-Gô school, Toyama's Ho-Shô school, and Yusaki's Kan-Ze school; the first is named as being the oldest.

According to the construction of the "Nō" play in days gone by, one play

Digitized by Google

was divided into two acts, and at the second act the same actor changed his costume for the new act, and wore a mask—the actor in the first act has been called the "Maé-Shité" (First Protagonist), and in the second act he was called the "Nochi-Shité" (Second Protagonist). It was a remarkable improvement in those days, because in earlier times, the play had one act only. It is said that the two-act play is a particularity of the "Nô". The interlude between the two acts was filled up by farce termed "Kyo-Gen"—comedietta of broad fun—delivered in antique colloquialisms, so that the audience might not grow satiated with the principal theme. More than 30 plays of the 200 "Nô" plays have the two acts.

There are several rôles in the play: the Shité (Protagonist—leading rôle), the Waki (Deuteragonist—supporter of the leading rôle), the Tsuré (Companion—attendant), and the Chorus, who recite portions of the poems and songs in the "Nô" play in a dramatic manner accompanied by music. It has some things very similar to the old Greek drama. Each play takes about an hour to act.

The action on the "Nō" stage is as follows: —

First Act:

1. Enter Deuteragonist.
2. Enter Protagonist.
3. Dialogue.
4. Description.
5. Preliminary Intimation (as to the Second Act.)

Interlude: Farce

Second Act:

1. CHORUS—enter Deuteragonist.
2. Enter Protagonist in mask.
3. Description (dialogue in song).
4. DANCE (without singing).
5. Conclusion.

The Play entitled "Hagoromo" (Robe of Feathers) is one of the two-act plays.

The end of the first act of the "Hagoromo" is as follows: —

Fisherman—I would fain speak a word unto thee. Too strong is the pity that overcomes me, as I gaze upon thy face. I will restore to thee thy robe of feathers.

Fairy—Oh joy! oh joy! Give it back to me!

Fisherman—One moment! I restore it to thee on condition that thou first of all dance to me now, at this very hour and in this very spot, one of those fairy dances whose fame has reached mine ears.

Fairy—Oh, joy untold! It is, then, granted to me once more to return to heaven! And if this happiness be true, I will leave a dance behind me as

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

a token to mortal men. I will dance it here—the dance that makes the Palace of the Moon turn round, so that even poor transitory man may learn its mysteries. But I cannot dance without my feathers. Give them back to me, I pray thee.

Fisherman—No, no! If I restore to thee thy feathers, thou wilt fly home to heaven without dancing for me at all.

Fairy—Fie on thee! The pledge of mortals may be doubted, but in heavenly beings there is no falsehood.

Fisherman—Fairy maid! thou shamest me: Take thy feathers and be free!

The second act is as follows:—

Fairy—Now the maiden dons her wings
And rainbow robes, and blithely sings.

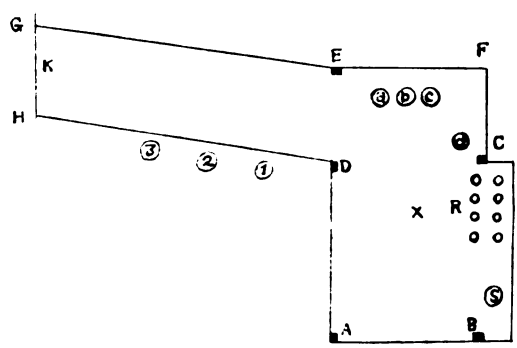
Fisherman—Wings that flutter in the wind!

Fairy—Robes like flow'rs with rain-drops lin'd! (The fairy begins to dance).

Fisherman—See her dance the roundelay!

Fisherman—This the spot and this the day.
Fairy—This the spot and this the day.
Chorus—To which our Eastern dances trace
All their frolic, art, and grace.

The stage of the "Nō" play is built specially for the purpose—half theatre—the stage is of archaic design and the dimensions are 18 feet square. It is connected with a bridge, the spans of which are not uniform in length: one part of it measuring 9×18 feet, and others 9×30 feet, 9×42 feet, 9×66 feet, or 6×78 feet with railings on either side.



The orchestra hall is 9×18 feet; the stage and the bridge are situated at an angle of 80°, the seat of the Shité (Protagonist) is 12 feet from AB line; the background is made of wood, with a painted design of old pine-trees. The planks of the stage-floor are ranged lengthwise, and those of the orchestra hall breadthwise.

ABCD—Stage (18 feet square)
CDEF—Orchestra Hall (9×18 feet).
DEGH—Bridge (9×30 feet).

A—Main Pillar.
B—Deuteragonist's Pillar.
C—Flute Player's Pillar.
D—Protagonist's Pillar.
E—Farce Player's Pillar.
F—Lower Stage-gate.
K—Curtain (Entrance and Exit).
R—Chorus.
S—Deuteragonist's Seat.
X—Protagonist's Seat.

a—Drummer.
b—Large Hand-Drummer.
c—Small Hand-Drummer.
d—Flute Player.

Digitized by Google

1—1st Pine Tree. 2—2nd Pine Tree. 3—3rd Pine Tree.

The scenery on the stage is quite simple, but the actors' dresses and masks are splendid and in old-fashioned style. The changing of the actor's dress in masquerade is worthy of notice, and it is a valuable thing for antiquarians that the "Nô" play remained uuchanged through the chaotic conditions existing during the 150 years of civil war. Under the Tokugawa Shogunate (1603-1867), the "Nô" play was most improved by the Shoguns; in the latter half of the sixteenth century the new school of the "Nô" play called the "Ki-Ta" was created by Hichi-Dayu, a great artist.

There is no discrimination among the five schools of the "Nô" play; each school varies slightly from others in the singing of poems and songs with the peculiar intonation: the Kon-Paru school's style is grandeur, the Kon-Gô's is sturdiness, the Ho-Shô's is steadfastness, the Kan-Ze's is splendour, and the Ki-Ta's is simplicity; but we think these schools are becoming more united as time passes and that they should have no discrimination between each other. The representations of these schools are still given by families who have handed down the "Nô" art to posterity from father to son for 500 years. It is fair to say that the "Nô" play is making much more progress under the patronage of His Majesty the Emperor, and the zeal of the "Nô" players and dramatists is greater than formerly.

The "Nô" play and its drama are indeed of ancient style; the language in the play is very beautiful, but it is antique and very hard of comprehension to the modern Japanese; though it is of great interest to most foreign spectators, it is impracticable to bring it before the foreign public. The study of the "Nô" play in Japan belongs chiefly to noblemen and ladies in Japanese intellectual circles.

We cannot agree with opinions for the reconstruction of the "Nô" play; it is necessary for it to preserve its antique style properly to represent old Japanese art; if the "Nô" were reconstructed by reformers, it would be transformed into a meaningless play, and it would be unworhy of the Japanese classical "Nô" play, and the original "Nô" would be of no practical value. It is fair to say that its chief interest lies in its age.

Left to right: Mr. M. Kanze, drummer; Mr. N. Tanimura, large hand-drummer; Mr. K. Hashioka, small hand-drummer, Mr. J. Otsuki, flute player.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

[illegible] Railway

[illegible]

Digitized by Google

The South Manchuria Railway Company

FOLLOWING the acquisition by the Japanese Government from Russia in 1905, as a result of Japan's victory over the latter, of the main line of the railway through Manchuria from Changchun to Dalny (now Dairen) and Port Arthur, together with its branch lines and all the rights, privileges and properties thereto attached, the South Manchuria Railway Company was founded at the end of the following year, with the head office at Dairen and a branch in Tokyo.

The authorized capital was at first Yen 200,000,000, half of which is owned by the Japanese Government and the other half subscribed to by the general public. After the Great War, owing to the necessary development of the Company's activities, its capital was increased to Yen 440,000,000 in April, 1920. The first President was Viscount S. Goto; at present Mr. B. Yasuhiro is president and Mr. K. Ohdaira, Vice-President.

Hoshigaura (Star Beach) seaside resort near Dairen.

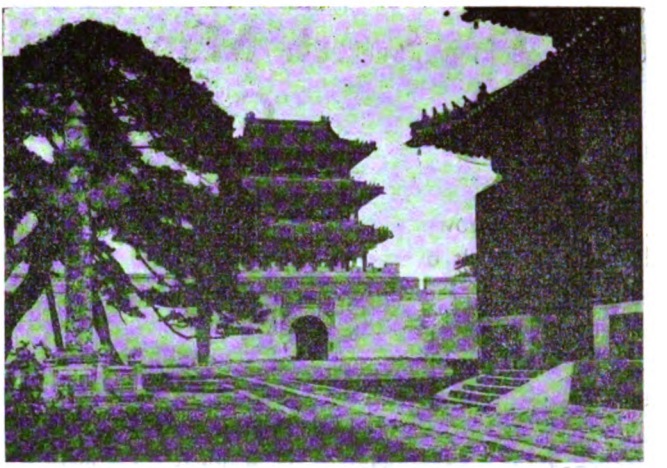
Simultaneously with the transfer of the properties from the Japanese Government to the Company, on the latter's establishment, the railway began to be operated and coal-mining was started. Since 1906 the Company's undertakings have gradually expanded, and the management of the Chosen Railway came into its hands, entrusted to it by the Government-General of Chosen, in July, 1917.

The principal undertakings of the South Manchuria Railway Company are: railways, shipping, harbour, coal mines, Anzan iron and steel works, electricity and gas, hotels, and the management of the Railway Area.

Railways The South Manchuria Railway has a working mileage of 688.8 miles. It starts at Dairen and extends northwards. Passing Mukden, the terminus of the Peking-Mukden Line of the Chinese Government Railways, the Railway connects at Ssupingkai with the Ssupingkai-Taonan Line at right angles and crosses the watershed dividing the Liao and the Sungari, reaching Changchun, Kirin Province, to connect there with the Chinese Eastern Railway and also with the Kirin-Changchun Line of the Chinese Government Railways. This forms the main line of 439 miles. Together with the Mukden-Antung Line of 162 miles which joins the main

Digitized by Google

line at Suchiatun, and five branch lines of 88 miles in all, they constitute the commercial artery of Manchuria and, meanwhile, form a link in the Asia-European inter-continental highway of traffic. Besides, they oerate as an effective instrument for opening up Manchuria and Mongolia by serving as the carrier of agricultural products.



The Peiling tombs of the Manchus, at Mukden.

To the through passenger trains running between Dairen and Ceanghun and between Mukden and Fusan are attached dining cars and sleeping cars with good accommodation for the convenience of long-distance travellers. The number of freight trains has been steadily increased year by year so as to meet the increasing requirements brought about by a steady increase of trade.

Warehousing The Company commenced its warehousing business in 1908, principally for the purpose of taking care of goods arriving at and departing from the Dairen Wharves.

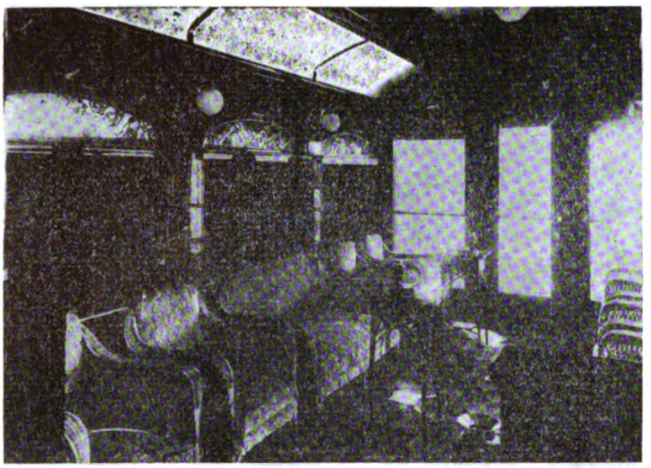
The scale on which the warehousing business was conducted being too small, the company started in 1911 at Dairen a regular warehousing business on a far larger scale, and subsequently constructed many warehouses at the principal stations along the lines.

Orginally the Company took over from the Government a railway workshop at Dairen Station, but as it was only a temporary building of flimsy nature, the Company constructed new and modernly equipped workshops on an extensive scale at Shahokou, near Dairen, in August, 1911. These workshops are among the largest in the Orient, having their own waterworks, and can execute repairs simultaneously on 27 locomotives, 36 passenger-cars, and 130 freight cars. Besides these new workshops, a branch one at Liaoyang has been expanded into an independent plant. Furthermore, an electrical repairing workshop is operated at Dairen for the repair of electrical machinery.

Shipping The increasing through traffic between Europe and the Far East, resulting from the reconstruction of the railways, induced the Company to institute a regular steamship service between Dairen and Shanghai, this service being opened in August, 1907. This steamship line serves to connect the shortest and quickest route from Europe to Shanghai, and as an annex to the South Manchuria Railway it is equally important for passenger and freight traffic as well as for mails.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google



In an observation car on the South Manchuria Railway.

In December, 1914, Tsingtao was included in the service of this line as a port of call. Moreover, a through cargo service was opened between this line and the important ports along the Yangtsze through the Nisshin Kisen Kaisha service and the Shantung Railway. With a view to promoting facilities for passenger and freight traffic by land and sea as well as for the export of the Company's Fushun coal, the Company started a regular steamship service between Dairen, Hongkong, and Canton in October, 1913, calling at Chefoo and Tsingtao.

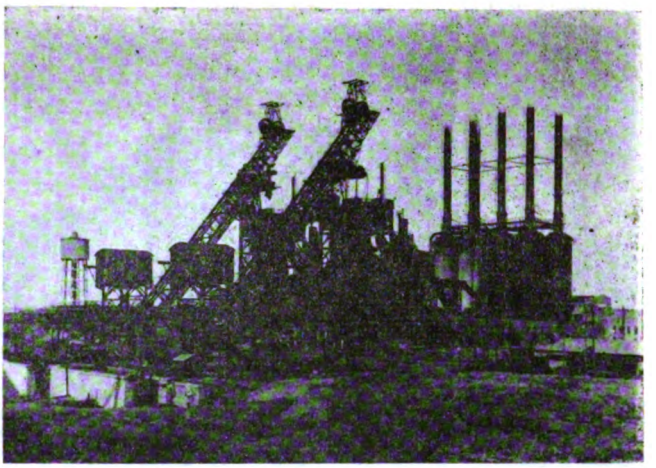
For the purpose of developing the coastwise trade in North China waters, including the Gulf of Pechili, the Company has had many light-draught steamers constructed for charter to the Dairen Steamship Company, Ltd.

Harbour Works When the Company took over the property from the Government the harbour construction at Dairen was not completed, and the Company decided to finish the work, mainly following the plan originated by the Russians. At present the North and West Breakwaters are 11,900 feet long and the East 1,221 feet long. The whole quay line for berthing vessels is 13,796 feet in length, the area enclosed by these breakwaters being 76.8 acres with an annual capacity of 6,000,000 tons ofgoods. Moreover, the Company commenced construction of Wharf C and the Fourth Wharf in 1923, in pursuance of its plan of the expansion of the undertaking, and these two new wharves will be completed in 1929. When the work is finished, the new quay line available for berthing ships will be increased by 5,500 feet.

Coal Mines In April, 1907, the Company acquired from the Government

An interesting river scene on the line of the South Manchuria Railway.

Digitized by Google



Anshan Iron and Steel Works, of the South Manchuria Railway.

the collieries at Fushun, Yentai, and Chatzuyao near Wafangtien, and again, in July, 1907, the collieries at Shihpeiling and Taochiatun were transferred to the Company from the Russian Government. At present only the Fushun and Yentai Collieries are worked by the Company. The Fushun Collieries are situated about 20 miles east of Mukden. The total area of the mining zone comprises abyut 18,200,000 *tsubo*. At the beginning only three pits were in existence, but the Company later completed the sinking of two extensive shafts, and all kinds of installations have been improved, so that now the daily output reaches 5,000 tons. The Yentai collieries are situated about 10 miles northeast of Yentai Station; the coal-field, running for about 3 miles and a half from north to south with a breadth of one mile from east to west, is estimated to contain 20,000,000 tons. The Fushun Coal Sales Company, Ltd., capitalized at Yen 3,000,000, was established in April, 1923, for the purpose of extending the market for Fushun coal.

Anzan Iron & Steel Works In 1914 the operation of a number of iron mines about Anshan was made practicable under Sino-Japanese joint management, and in March, 1916, the Anzan Iron and Steel Works came into existence. The works cover san area of about 2,000,000 *tsubo*, equipped with two blast furnaces (each producing 250 M. T. per day) and four coke ovens (each capable of producing 130 M. T. per day), in addition to the necessary water and power supply installations. The iron ore used at the works is supplied by the Anshan Iron Mining Chenhsing Kungssu, a Sino-Japanese joint corporation. The iron mines are scattered within a semi-circular area ranging from northeast to southwest and about nine miles in radius, with the works as its centre. Lime-stone serving as a solvent is also supplied by the above Sino-Japanese joint corporation, and is mined near Huoliensai Station on the Mukden-Antung Line.

Electricity and Gas The Company maintains electric works at Dairen, Mukden, Changchun, and Antung, the Fushun and Anshan plants being worked on the Colliery and Iron Works accounts respectively. At present there are two power houses at Dairen, one having a capacity of 6,000 k.w. and the other of 5,000 k.w. The electric tramway in the city has been running since September, 1909, under the direct management of the Company. Suburban lines are now extended to Hoshigaura and Rokotan,

Digitized by Google

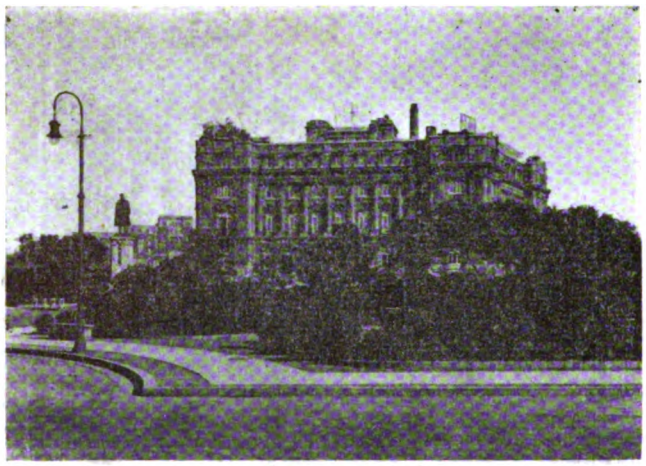
Anshan Iron and Steel Works, of the South Manchuria Railway C

I 10 M. T. per day, in addition to the necessary water and power supply installations. The iron ore used at the works is supplied by the Anshan Iron Mining Chanbsing Kwangsan, a Sino-Japanese joint corporation. The iron mines are scattered within a semi-circular area ranging from northeast to southwest and about nine miles in radius, with the works as its centre. Lime-stone serving as a solvent is also supplied by the above Sino-Japanese joint corporation, and is mined near Hsiaoliental Station on the Mukden-Antung Line.

Electricity and Gas The Company maintains electric works at Dairen, Mukden, Changchun, and Antung, the Fushun and Anshan plants being worked on the Colliery and Iron Works accounts respectively. At present there are two power houses at Dairen, one having a capacity of 6,000 k.w. and the other of 5,000 k.w. The electric tramway in the city has been running since September, 1909, under the direct management of the Company. Suburban line are now extended to Hoshigura and Rokkotan,

capable of producing

Digitized by Google



Yamato Hotel, Dairen.

both noted for their picturesque scenery. The total length of the line is now 64,-204 metres.

At Mukden the electric lighting business was started in June, 1908. On the opening of the power lines from Fushun to Mukden early in 1922, the old power house was no longer required, but to provide against emergency, a 1,000 k.w. power house has been retained in reserve.

With the growth of industry at different railway centres, the demand for light and power has markedly increased, so the Company's attention has lately been drawn specially to this field of industry.

In order to meet the demand for gas for lighting, heating, industrial and other purposes, the Company drafted a plan to manufacture coal gas to an amount of 300,000 cubic feet per 24 hours, and erected a gas tank with a capacity of 150,000 cubic feet. The business was opened in March, 1910. Since then many gas producing furnaces have been installed to meet the urgent local demand, and their capacity now totals 2,400,000 cubic feet per 24 hours. The railway Company has also instituted the gas business at Fushun, while Anshan has been supplied with gas since May, 1920.

Hotels For the convenience of railway passengers, the South Manchuria Railway Company built the Yamato Hotels at Dairen, Port Arthur, Mukden and Changchun. The Yamato Hotel at Dairen was opened to business in August, 1907; that at Port Arthur in March, 1908; that at Mukden in October, 1910; and that at Changchun in October, 1908.

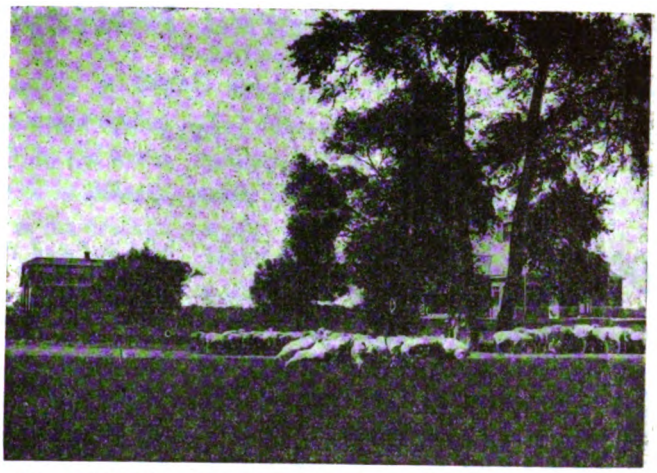
For the purpose of attracting visitors of all nationalities to the sea-side, another Yamato Hotel, with cottages for rent, was erected in August, 1910, at Hoshigaura in the suburbs of Dairen, a place noted for its beautiful scenery, pure atmosphere and healthful climate. At present there are 23 cottages in foreign style, others in Japanese style, and one of Chinese design. In June, 1918, a cluster of villas on the sunny side of Ogon-dai or Golden Hill, Port Arthur, owned by the Kwantung Government-General, was rented by the Railway Company to be sublet to general applicants.

All the hotels are well planned; particularly the hostelry at Dairen, completed in 1914 in the Renaissance design. It has a total floor space of 660 *tsubo* with 115 rooms. The edifice itself is of imposing proportions and is a model of comfort and luxury.

Management of the Railway Area In 1907, when the Company took over

Digitized by Google

the management of the Railway Area, Settlement Councils functioned at various centres along the Railway. But at present district agencies are maintained at Anshan, Mukden Changchun, Antung, Wafangtien, Tashihchiao, Yingkou, Tiehling, Kaiyuan, Ssupingkai, Kungchuling, and Penhsihu to attend to the administration of the respective districts. At Shahokou, the Railway Workshops perform the duties ofthe district agency. At Fushun, the general offices of the Collieries undertake the local administration.



The South Manchuria Railway's Agriculture Experiment Station at Koshurei.

Of the expenses required for the administration of the South Manchuria Railway Area, all the funds needed for installations for public benefit in the Area are defrayed by the Company, while the current expenses are paid from public rates collected from the residents, whatever deficit may occur being met by the Company. In the assessments of public rates, the Railway Towns are classified into A, B and C according to the state of development of each district, taking into consideration also the general financial status of the residents. The financial means, income, etc. of each resident qualified to pay the public rate are taken into consideration.

In connection with the administration of the Railway Area, the Company recognized at the outset the urgent necessity of laying out new towns along the Railway lines in order to boom the Area and increase the number of settlers therein. To begin with, town plans were drawn up for Changchun, Tiehling, Mukden, Liaoyang, etc. These plans were executed, and now many of these places are growing into fair-sized towns, provided with waterworks, drains, parks, market places, slaughter-houses, cemeteries, and crematories, as well as schools and hospitals. All these developments furnish proofs of how effectively the South Manchuria Railway Company has employed its best endeavours towards fulfilling it peculiar mission. At present the Railway Area contains a population of about 240,000 in about 4,600 households, with a steady increase year after year.

The South Manchuria Railway Company is making remarkable efforts for the improvement of education, hygienic arrangements, patrolling system, agricultural, industrial and commercial experiments and scientific investigation.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Lacquered Butterflies

A Novel

(VI)

By Ryutei Tanehiko

ONE night the courtezan Kaoru of Ogigayatsu, Kamakura, dreamed a strange dream.

In the dream, she visited Shinobunosuke Misawa, her lover, at his hiding place, in acceptance of his invitation. He was very sick and worn out. He was glad to see her and said:

"I came here with a secret wish. But it has not been realized. As you see, I am unfortunately very ill and cannot hope to recover. I as a samurai do not like to die of disease. So, I have made up my mind to commit harakiri to-day. I have been told that our child, Shinobu, is really a boy and not a girl as pretended by you for the sake of convenience in bringing him up. When he is 15 years old, be kind enough to give him this article."

So saying, he brought out a brocade bag, and placing it before Kaoru, he continued: "This contains papers giving my antecedents and my will. Open it after my death."

He had no sooner uttered this than he drew his sword and disembowelled himself. Kaoru, amazed, tried to stop him but it was too late. She clung to the body and cried, bitterly.

This was the dream. She was awakened from it by her own crying.

"Was it a dream? I have not seen my husband for long and had intended to visit him to-morrow. This thought of him induced the dream!" she told herself.

She could not wait till the next day. She dressed in a hurry and went out to see Shinobunosuke, taking with her Shinobu, the child, carried in the arms of an old maid. She found his house just as she had seen it in the dream. With heart filled by anxiety for his safety, she hurriedly entered his room. But alas! She found her lover lying on his back, disembowelled. The dream had been true! He held in his left hand a brocade bag. She clung to the body, overcome by grief.

As it was useless to grieve too long, she plucked up courage and notified his death to the neighbours, with whom the funeral was held quietly. Then, she went back to her house in tears.

She was so prostrated with grief that she thought of committing suicide. But she was hindered from doing so by her affection for the child.

She set up a gravestone for Shinobunosuke. But she had little time to spare to visit the grave.

One day she obtained leave of her master and left her house at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon to visit the resting place of her late husband at Makuzuga-oka. The grass was green in the rain and the dew scattered by the wind watered it at other times.

Kaoru, taking the child by the hand,

Digitized by Google

fell on her knees before the gravestone and said to him:

"Your father was taken so ill and committed suicide before he could realize his long cherished desire. I do not know what was his desire, but it is written in detail on papers contained in the brocade bag. Grow up quickly to manhood and achieve your father's desire. Don't forget it, my darling!"

Then, she made obeisance before the grave and said to the spirit of her husband:

"You may be sure that your desire will be accomplished by Shinobu, when he is grown up, as I have just told him."

After that, she prayed to Amitabha Buddha, saying: "Save us, Oh Amidh Buddha!"

As she offered her prayers, the cries of the insects added to her sadness.

Kichiza, the young master of the Fudoya, having attended the funeral service of an old neighbour came to Makuzuga-oka and was crossing a bridge over the rivulet, when he met Kaoru, who was on her way back. The bridge was very narrow, and in passing the two were brought very close to each other. Kaoru looked involuntarily at Kichiza and was astonished to find him the very picture of her late husband, although a few years younger. She wondered if the dead had been restored to life.

Following Kichiza came Danpachi, whom she knew. From this, she supposed the gentleman to be the young master of the Fudoya.

So like her late husband, he so charmed her that she several times looked back at him. The *nakai*, the maid, coming after her, understood how she felt. She beckoned the *kamuro*, the little maid, to her, and whispered something to her, sending word to Danpachi.

Danpachi, who had a plot formed with Tagomatsu for leading Kichiza astray, thought it a fine chance for carrying it out, when the message was given him by the maid.

"All right. I'll take him this evening. Be prepared for it," he said to her.

He then talked of the matter to Kichiza. "You know the name of Kaoru, don't you, sir?" he asked, "she is very popular and cannot be engaged easily. How lucky you are to be invited by such a girl. You must accept the invitation and go to her house this evening."

Kichiza smiled and said:

"The prostitute invites her guests simply to take money. This invitation is a stratagem of Kaoru. How terrible!"

So saying, he walked two or three steps, when he re-considered the matter and resolved to visit Kaoru to see what means would be taken to tempt him by this popular and amorous-natured prostitute.

That evening he went to the gay quarters, accompanied by Danpachi.

The room of Kaoru, into which he was introduced, was as fine as that of a princess. In the alcove, however, he noticed a straw hat and a filthy paper garment, placed ceremoniously with incense and flowers offered before them. He thought it very strange and quite unbecoming to such a splendid room. While he was thinking over its possible significance with curiosity, Kaoru entered the room, accompanied by the *kamuro*.

Soon, a feast was held in the room by the two guests and the hostess. She

Digitized by Google

Lacquere

ONE night the courteza
Ogigayatsu, Kamakur
strange dream.

In the dream, she visi
Misawa, her lover, at
acceptance of his
very sick and worn
see her and said:

"I came h
But it has not
I am unfor
hope to r
like to di
up my
I hav
is r
ed

Danpachi and Tagomatsu turned this to their account in leading him astray.

He led a dissipated life in company h these two bad characters. He in- d in every sort of pleasure in the arters and sought for anything new ulating. He was thinking of giving rdinary a feast there as to make emorable.

e was passing Tono-tsuji and ist priest there, who stood -scroll hanging on a pillar, ns, ringing a bell. This itiable scene of sinners ering penalties in hell

to him. He gave to the priest, in ook the picture. atsu.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

entertained them with easy manners, neither too familiar nor too cool. After the feast, Danpachi left the room. Kaoru came towards Kichiza and said:

"The reason why I asked you to come here against your will is that you resemble closely the wearer of that straw hat. Please pardon me for telling you, whom I met to-day for the first time, such a thing. He was called Shinobunosuke Minawa, being a samurai of high birth. Now, he is dead and I am offering incense and flowers to the straw hat worn by him. To-day I visited his grave and met you by chance. You being the image of my late husband, whom I wished I could see again, I was attracted by you and invited you. Your appearance adds to my grief over the death of my husband."

As she said so, she burst into tears and threw herself down, pressing her sleeve to her face. Kichiza seeing it, was silent and felt rather unpleasant at her attitude towards him, which was contrary to what he had expected, although he could not know the reason why it was.

"Just listen to what I have to say to you and have sympathy with me, if you please, although it may not be of any interest to you," Kaoru said as she lifted her face and wiped away her tears.

She gave him the full story and added:

"Well, you might take the matter simply as a love affair. I took to this calling under inevitable circumstances into which my family was thrown. The courtezan is only insincere and deceitful to her guests, when her guests are insincere and deceitful to her. Shinobunosuke was a man of good birth and to be depended upon in the belief of which I pledged my eternal love to him. He is now dead and it is no use to talk of it now. I, in my mind, took the veil. I would be very glad if you would have compassion on me and would come to see me at times."

While she was so speaking, she held in her arms the paper garment from the alcove.

Kichiza was impressed in spite of himself.

"I believed all the courtezans to be insincere and all the men frequenting the gay quarters to be fools, and I could never imagine such a splendid man as Shinobunosuke to be among them," he said, "and though I may look like him in countenance, yet I cannot be an equal to him in mind. Still I have a manly spirit and will visit you at times as your sympathetic friend. But I cannot make you my wife, as I already have one, whom I shall have to marry."

"That is just what I wish," Kaoru replied with a smile.

She then rose and went to the alcove. She brought back a small box arranged in the miniature shrine. She opened it and took out a small brocade bag. Showing it to Kichiza, she said: "This is the legacy of my late husband and is my most valued treasure, which in my dream I was asked by him to open, when my son Shinobu is grown up. Let me give this into your keeping in order to show my friendship."

"All right, Kaoru," Kichiza said. He gave his amulet case to her, saying: "This case contains a thing most valuable to me, and I leave it with you in exchange for your husband's legacy as an evidence of our constant friendship."

Digitized by Google

The night was passed merrily by the two, who talked frankly, drank and sang together.

From that time on, Kichiza visited Kaoru every evening, and even on rainy or stormy nights was he found there.

Fubuki, his mother, soon guessed what was the matter with him, but she winked at it, as she regarded it rather sympathically as a usual thing for a youth like him, as he might feel lonely with his fiance, Ayame, missing.

As time went by, he grew more and more loose in conduct and neglected his business. Kanraku, his father, was very anxious over it and lectured him on his conduct, but he would not listen. The mother no longer tolerated him as much as before and gave gentle talkings to him, but in vain.

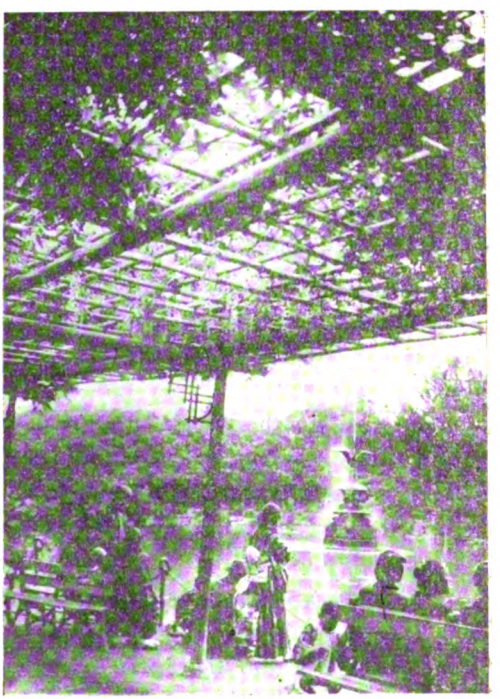
Danpachi and Tagomatsu turned this to their account in leading him astray.

He led a dissipated life in company with these two bad characters. He indulged in every sort of pleasure in the gay quarters and sought for anything new and stimulating. He was thinking of giving so extraordinary a feast there as to make his name memorable.

One day he was passing Tono-tsuji and saw a Buddhist priest there, who stood before a picture-scroll hanging on a pillar, and begged for alms, ringing a bell. This picture showed. a pitiable scene of sinners from this world suffering penalties in hell after death.

A sudden idea came to him. He gave a good amount of alms to the priest, in consideration of which he took the picture. Then he took it to Ogiga-yatsu.

(To be continued)

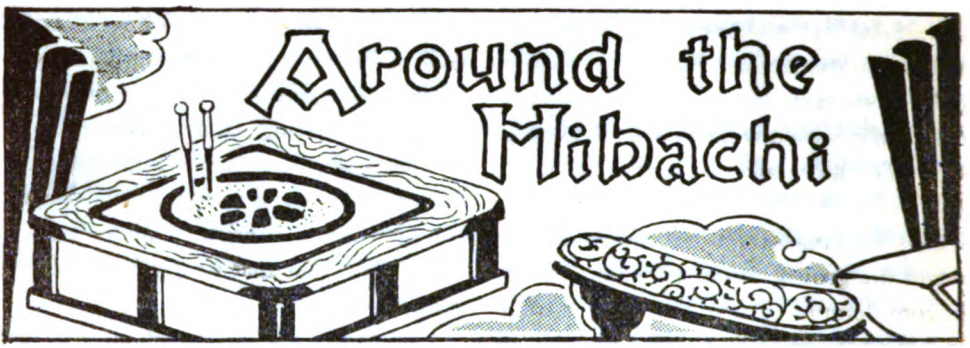


Early summer in Hibiya Park, Tokyo.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google



TWO PIONEER MERCHANTS

IT was in the 1st year of Keio (1865). "Well, well— the Government has vetoed the export of raw silk," Ippei Wakao, a silk merchant in Kofu, muttered to himself, on reading an urgent letter from his Yokohama office.

His clerks hearing the soliloquy, changed colour.

Raw silk had grown rapidly in production and had risen considerably in price, as a result of its much increased exportation; and it was sure that an embargo on its export would cause an oversupply and would consequently force down its price precipitately.

Mr. Wakao then held in his godowns plenty of raw silk for shipment to Yokohama for export. Would it be possible for him to avoid bankruptcy, if its export were banned?

The startled men stole a glance at their master to see if he was anxious about the matter. But he did not look dejected. On the contrary, he was in high spirits.

"Things are becoming more interesting. Just see this letter," he said to his men. He threw the letter over to them in an easy manner, and laughed pleasantly. But none of them laughed as the master laughed. The contradiction between the threatening misfortune and his cheerful look perplexed them, and they could not utter a word.

"What are you thinking about, my lads?" the master said, "we must buy up silk not only here, but in Shinshu, Joshu and Bushu at least."

He gave the daring command to his men to prepare for buying. The men were astonished again and stared at him.

"Eh, what do you say, master? You are buying, are you?" they cried. "So long as the export veto exists, the price will continue to come down heavily and will never recover."

"Yes, the price will drop and I am looking forward to that in order to buy up the stock," the master replied.

His composed attitude was another surprise to his men. They could not make out why their master was going to buy up the goods, whose price could not be expected to go up soon. They were even afraid that their master had become unhinged by the heavy blow to be done to his business by the situation.

Wakao was not out of his mind as was feared by his employees. He had an eye on the general situation and was confident

Digitized by Google

of success. In his view the Government had vetoed the export of raw silk carried away by the anti-foreign feeling prevailing then and it would affect as a natural consequence the market so seriously as to give rise to bitter complaints among the traders and manufacturers concerned and retard the growth of the national wealth, in consideration of which he was certain that the ban would be lifted before long, causing in that event a sharp rise in price, justifying its purchase upon its fall.

His idea hit the mark.

He made a very handsome profit in this great adventure and built up with it the foundation of his immense wealth, on the strength of which he led, throughout his life, the Koshu clique, a most powerful influence in the financial world of Japan.

* * * *

Heihachi Tanaka was known as a "hero" in the business world of Japan in the beginning of the Meiji era, when people called him Tenka-no-Ito-Hei (Ito-hei of world fame), Ito-Hei being his firm name.

At first, he was a fish-monger. Then, he made himself a swordman, after which he turned merchant.

"What! do you say that the foreigners will not buy Japanese goods?" he shouted in a voice as loud as he had used in his samurai days, to one of his clerks bringing the tidings to him.

Raw silk, green tea and other Japanese products had risen steadily in price as their export trade grew prosperous. Moreover, their prices were brought up by speculative buying by the foreign merchants in Yokohama, taking advantage of the prices here being disproportionately low to those ruling abroad.

However, the foreign merchants did not want to see any further advance in the prices and wished to force them down by some means or other to the low levels of times past so that handsome profits could be obtained again. They joined therefore in stopping buying. This was immediately followed by a sharp fall in the prices.

"If the foreigners do not buy, I'll buy myself," Tanaka cried, "go and buy up the goods. See that no goods are sold to the foreigners."

On receipt of this command, his men set out in all directions, with plenty of money.

All the export goods consigned to Yokohama were bought up by him. He despatched his men to the manufacturing sources, in which bargains were struck for export products, as well as in Yokohama.

The foreign merchants expected the Japanese to come begging soon for business at cut prices. But their anticipation turned out to the contrary, for no Japanese merchants visited them. They wondered why and looked into the matter, when it was revealed that the goods had been cornered by Tanaka. They were startled. It was a serious affair for them, whose only object in Yokohama was to buy Japanese products.

They made a rush to buy from Tanaka whom they visited one after another. But he stood firm and would not readily accept their offers. At last, they begged him to sell. Harassing them to his heart's content, he at last consented to sell at prices 30 per cent. higher than those ruling before their present decline. This the foreigners had to pay.

He made a profit of millions of yen, equivalent to a hundred millions to-day, as commodities were much cheaper then than at present.

This enormous profit was gained in only 10 days, and it made the name of Tenka-no-Ito-Hei more famous and popular among the people.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

THE RED CROSS WITH of JAPAN

Infants' Hygiene Exhibition

ON completing preparatory steps at the end of April, the Japan Red Cross Society held an infants' hygiene exhibition in the building of its reference museum for two weeks from May 3 to 16. On the opening day several hundred visitors crowded the show despite a heavy rain, while on the third day the number of visitors reached over a thousand. On May 6 there was a lecture meeting in connection with nursing babies, a cinema show, and an advisory meeting with reference to babies.

There were shown about ninety exhibits, classified into three departments: pregnant women, lying-in women, and infants. In the former, scores of posters, domestic as well as foreign, in connection with rules to be observed with an explanation of each, some kinds of food that should not be taken in pregnancy, and ancient books, were exhibited. In the Lying-in Section, equipment and advice relative to accouchement and subsequent hygienic measures and actual articles, pictures, posters, etc., were shown.

The infants' section was devoted to explanations of how to hold baby, how to bear it on the back, how to lay it on the bed, how to choose a nurse, how to discern good cow's milk, and how to cool it, by means of actual articles, posters etc. Dolls were made use of for explaining the way of making baby's clothes, layettes, etc., and how to put them on, and examples of babies' food at the end of the nursing period were shown.

The standard stature and weight of a child at every period from its birth to the age of six years were exhibited by cut-out dolls, in front of which were placed a measure and a weighing machine, so that visitors might freely use them in order to compare their own babies with the standard shown before them. Diseases from which babies are apt to suffer, how to prevent them, toys which should or should not be given to babies, confections to be given them or not and other instructive matters were illustrated by means of models and statistics in a plain, simple way.

A remarkable feature was the exhibition of Princess Teru's ceremonial clothes, everyday clothes, diapers and toys, with which the Japan Red Cross Society was honoured by a loan of them from the Imperial Court. Visitors were gratified at the opportunity they thus had to see the actual clothes of the first-born infant of Their Imperial Majesties.

The Exhibition attracted over one thousand visitors every day it was open, to the great satisfaction of those responsible for it.

Digitized by Google

The Editor's Diary

MAY 10.—The cabinet decided on the appointment of Mr. Junnosuke Inouye to the Governorship of the Bank of Japan in place of Mr. Otohiko Ichiki.

May 11.—According to statistics published by the Government Bureau of Monopolies, the proceeds from the sale of tobacco, cigars and cigarettes for the fiscal year, 1926, amounted to 265,300,000 yen, an increase of 17,000,000 yen over the preceding year.

May 13.—This day, following the moratorium, the financial condition of the country was quiet.

May 14.—The newly organized political party decided on taking the name, Rikken Minseito or Constitutional Democratic Party.

May 15.—Tokyo experienced a severe hail-storm, as well as all the Kwanto or Eastern Japan.

May 17.—A sweeping change in prefectural governorships notified today, was to an extent unprecedented in the administrative history of Japan, about half of all the governors being changed, those placed on the reserved list numbering twenty-two.

May 18.—An attempt at the completion of all the reconstruction undertakings of Tokyo in consequence of the great earthquake of 1923, which was scheduled for March, 1930, by 1929, will be made by Mr. Suzuki, the new Minister for Home Affairs, who finds this a necessity in the general interests of the 2,000,000 citizens.

May 19.—The Statistical Bureau of the Cabinet published a report to the effect that the increase of the population in 1926 was 940,000. It is said that the figure would exceed 1,000,000 if the newly-born children whose birth reports were neglected were taken into calculation.

May 20.—According to the Department of Finance the general and special budget accounts for the fiscal year of 1927 are 3,714,724,000 yen revenue and 3,630,668,000 yen expenditure.

May 21.—In order to investigate the readjustment of the existing tax system, including partial transfer of the income from the land-fax from the central government to the prefectural offices, the government decided to newly organize a Committee for the Investigation of the Readjustment of the Taxation System.

May 22.—T. I. H. Prince and Princess Yi who leave Japan for an extensive trip in Europe, incognito as Count and Countess Yi Kun, tomorrow, made a formal farewell call on Their Majesties.

May 23.—In accordance with the Act for Compensation of Loss from Earthquake Bills and the Act for Remedial Measures in this respect passed at the 52nd session of the Imperial Diet, the government decided upon the new organization of an Earthquake Bills Inquiry Committee. The members are to be selected from among government officials and private financiers. The Finance Minister takes the chairmanship of the committee.

May 24.—Profoundly concerned at the situation in North China, which is threatening Japanese subjects, the government decided on steps for their protection by

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

despatching a mixed brigade to Tsinan and its neighbourhood if necessary. The decision was reached after long and careful deliberation.

May 25.—Premier Baron Tanaka who holds the portfolio of Foreign Affairs called an emergency conference at Kasumigaseki, summoning the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and other high officials of the Foreign Office, and discussed the question of the defence of Japanese interests in North China.

May 26.—The Agricultural and Forestry Department announced their decision to immediately enforce transactions in raw silk by net weight notwithstanding petitions for putting it off until some time later.

May 27.—The investigation made during the past few days with regard to the damage caused by the recent hail-storm shows that the loss in the prefecture of Tokyo was some 1,500,000 yen. The Home Department is expected to accomodate the sufferers with more than 1,320,000 yen at low interest.

May 28.—In view of the situation in Shantung the government at length decided upon despatching troops in accordance with the policy already settled. Baron Tanaka, Prime Minister, went to the Akasaka Palace where he was granted audience by His Majesty whose sanction was immediately given for sending two thousand men from the Tenth Army Division of Himeji, from Dairen. The Premier gave telegraphic instructions to the Commander of the Kwantung Garrison to that effect. The Foreign Office issued a statement in connection with the matter, and the Premier explained the situation to the foreign representatives in Tokyo.

May 29.—The Rikken Minseito, the newly organized party, which was confronted with a deadlock regarding the choice of its head, finally decided on Mr. Yuko Hamaguchi, Home Minister in the last Kensekai Cabinet, for President. Mr. Hamaguchi was persuaded to accept the post.

May 30.—With a view to making known the customs and habits of Japan in Italy, Premier Mussolini has recently made a request to that effect to Mr. Harukichi Shimoi, who resided long in Italy and made the acquaintance of the Duce. Mr. Shimoi has started making films of Japanese life with the aid of the railway authorities.

May 31.—Japan's foreign trade during the latter half of May is reported to be 68,040,000 yen exports and 63,178,000 imports, the balance of which shows the unusual excess of exports to an amount of 4,862,000 yen.

June 1.—The Rikken Minseito, the newly organized political party, celebrated its inauguration at the Seiyo-ken Hotel, Ueno. The new party has a membership of 226, giving it a majority in the Diet.

June 2.—The financial crisis having been passed thanks to the policy of Mr. Takahashi, Minister of Finance, he decided to withdraw from the Ministry. The Prime Minister found it inevitable to make a partial alteration of portfolios as a consequence. Mr. C. Mitsuchi, Minister of Education, was transferred to the portfolio of Finance, while Dr. Rentaro Midzuno becomes Minister of Education.

June 3.—Mr. Tani and other officials of the Foreign Office returned from South China where they had been making an extensive tour of investigation. Mr. Yoshi-

Digitized by Google

zawa, the Japanese Minister at Peking, and consuls-general in China have been instructed to supply the Foreign Office with reports on the conditions in North China. General Yamanashi, formerly Minister of War and one of the intimate friends of the Premier, was despatched to China to study present day conditions in that country.

June 4.—With reference to the problem of the fishery rights in Russian waters alloted to Japanese fishermen, Mr. Tanaka, the Japanese Ambassador to the U. S. S. R., has been in repeated negotiation with the Soviet anthorities. All the Japanese propositions regarding the fishing leases have been consented to by the Russian Government.

June 5.—The Sino-Japanese negotiation on the basis of the four proposals made by the Japanese Government in connection with the events at Hankow on April 3 have been brought to a conclusion, all the Japanese propositions being accepted by the Chinese Government which recognized its full responsibility for the affair. The Chinese Government in the South consented to make a formal apology and indemnity to Japan, while it made a formal declaration that it would do its best in safeguarding Japanese lives and properties in that district.

June 6.—A sweeping change has been made in the personnel of the chiefs of the police stations in Tokyo. Eleven were discharged; one was placed on the reserve list; four police inspectors were dismissed; and one police inspector was placed on the reserve list, numbering seventeen in all.

June 7.—The Finance Ministry announces that Japan's China trade during the month of May was 39,806,000 yen exports and 20,249,000 yen imports showing an excess of exports of 19,557,000 yen. Both exports and imports decreased to a considerable extent in comparison with the same month last year.

June 8.—Mr. Ikki, Minister of the Imperial Household, received the Throne's sanction of the date of the Coronation of the Emperor. A statement published by the Household Department is as follows :—

The date of the Imperial Coronation and that of the Daijosai, the first offering of rice by the Emperor to the ancestral gods immediately after accession have been fixed unofficially for certain days between autumn and winter in the 3rd year of Showa (1928).

June 9.—As a consequence of investigations made since last year in connection with the reconstruction work in the capital the appropriation for Tokyo was found deficient to the extent of about 130,000,000 yen. In consequence, it was decided that 78,000,000 yen of the above sum should be saved by economizing, while the remaining 52,000,000 yen would be claimed from the coming session of the Imperial Diet.

June 10.—Today is observed as "Accurate Time Day." Posters and small banners with such slogans as "accurate time," "encourage punctuality," and others are put up here and there in Tokyo. At noon sharp, some temples, factories, etc., sounded bells, whistles, etc.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google